

10 Plants That Shook The World
by Gillian Richardson

Saskatchewan Education Science Curriculum Connections

Grade 4:

Life Science: Habitats and Communities

HC4.1 *Investigate the interdependence of plants and animals, including humans, within habitats and communities.*

HC4.2 *Analyze the structures and behaviours of plants and animals that enable them to exist in various habitats.*

HC4.3 *Assess the effects of natural and human activities on habitats and communities, and propose actions to maintain or restore habitats.*

10 Plants That Shook the World examines how various plants such as cotton, sugar, rubber, some found only in select worldwide locations, have influenced human development through history. It discusses the adverse environmental effects of intensive agricultural practices of these plant resources, e.g. how sugar cultivation can cause environmental damage to the land.

Grade 7:

Life Science: Interactions within Ecosystems

IE7.4 *Analyze how ecosystems change in response to natural and human influences, and propose actions to reduce the impact of human behaviour on a specific ecosystem.*

10 Plants That Shook the World discusses impacts of changes to Amazon rainforests through rubber tree cultivation and harvest, and destruction of Caribbean island ecosystems from extensive sugar plantations

Saskatchewan Education Social Studies Curriculum Connections

Grade 4:

Resources and Wealth

RW4.2 *Investigate the importance of agriculture to the economy and culture of Saskatchewan.*

10 Plants That Shook the World includes a chapter on corn production and use, including indigenous people's traditional practices.

Grade 5:

Dynamic Relationships

DR5.3 *Identify the European influence on pre-confederation Canadian society.*

10 Plants That Shook the World shares details of the Irish potato famine in 1845-47 that forced many people to emigrate to Canada

Grade 6:

Resources and Wealth

RW6.1 *Examine and analyze factors that contribute to quality of life, including material and non-material factors.*

10 Plants That Shook the World discusses 10 plant resources, e.g. tea, cotton, cinchona, that have contributed to quality of life

Grade 7:

Resources and Wealth

RW7.2 *Investigate the influence of resources upon economic conditions of peoples in circumpolar and Pacific Rim countries.*

10 Plants That Shook the World discusses the origins of several plants (potato, corn, cinchona) found in South America, and tea from China, and their economic impact on the world.