

Where in the World?

Summary: Learn about the global marketplace and where things are made.

Age Group: Grades 3rd through 5th

Materials: Paper plates or sheets of paper, Crayons or markers; Household items

Instructions:

Due to the pandemic, we are much more aware of the world around us. In business, this is called the Global Market. Businesses and consumers purchase goods and services from countries around the world. Do you purchase items from other countries?

Have your child go around the house and look at items to see how many countries have produced something in your house. Look at the tag or package to see where things are made. Look for a label saying, "Made in....". Have them look at clothes, toys, food and anything else they can find. They can write down a list of the items and where they are made? How many countries did they find?

When the US (or any country) purchases products from another country, it is called IMPORTING. If the US (or other country) sells products to other countries, it is called EXPORTING.

Have your child select 5 or 6 of the items on their list. They need one item made in the US.

1. Using paper plates or pieces of paper, write USA on one paper plate and place it in the center. Color the plate red, white, and blue or use an image of the US flag.
2. Place an item made in the USA on this plate.
3. Place your next item on a different paper plate and draw the flag of that country on the plate. Continue with all products.
4. Draw blue arrows pointing to the US from all plates showing that the US imports these items from other countries.
5. Do any of the other countries use the items made in the USA? If so, draw red arrows on the USA plate pointing to those countries. These are exports from the US to other countries.

Discuss why products are made in different countries.

Extension: Some products are made using parts from different countries. Have your child look at the products they selected. Are there different components/parts/ingredients used to produce the product? (i.e. orange juice would be oranges and the container). Make a list of components for each product. Note what country produces the component. If they are unsure, have them investigate online to see what components are needed and where they are from. On paper, write which country imports and which exports the items. Discuss how all the countries rely on each other to create the global marketplace.

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