

Family Farm snapshots in 2015 the Soils year (IYFF+10/IYS2015) : ‘Feeding the world, caring for the Earth’ & ‘Healthy soils for a healthy life’ & “Seven Billion Dreams. One Planet. Consume with care”

Dear teachers

I am sending this out nominally for World Environment Day as I have just got these up onto the Family Farming Snapshots webpage and realize their potential.

If you haven't got anything planned for WED tomorrow and have a half hour, they might be useful up on a big screen looking at the photos at least!

Below are a couple of just published Family Farming Snapshots – one from Samoa, the other Kenya- which can help explore the 2015 World Environment Day theme and some suggestions as to where they would fit in English, Communication, Geography, Science and Sustainability. These two snapshot focus on **food for family use first** which could be used to explore the “**Consuming with Care**” part of the 2015 WED theme Their use of course is not just restricted to this year's WED theme, but could be used at any time for learnings in Sustainability.

If you do use these materials and would like to share any student response to them with the two families who contributed them, please send your feedback through me enviroed4all@gmail.com . .



Growing food as a family for our family”, Sa'anapu Uta, Samoa is found at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/SaanapuSamoa.pdf>

This is from the point of view of a boy who shows their traditional foods of his family's farm, how he helps them grow, and how they are cooked in an umu , in ground oven.



Married to my food forest farm, Mfangango Island, Lake Victoria, Kenya is found at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Foodforest-Kenya.pdf>

This is from the point of view of a father, who runs a family farm based on permaculture principals, teaches other farmers and has set up a variety of community project to provide teaching and good food.

This is a guide for where these snapshots could be used. As I hope teachers will be creative in using them, I haven't looked at the different levels within each of these:

English in:

- reading,
- comprehension,
- identifying what is consumed (from the soil up)
- how it is done with care,
- responses (oral or written) could be about what students do to grow their own food, or of people they know who do.

Communication, in:

- looking at what is in the photos throughout both of these snapshots,
- identifying what is mentioned in the text,
- looking for examples of how the food is grown with care for these two places
- responding by taking photos to show the soil that is consumed in the home or school garden to grow plants and what is done to care about it.

Geography – extending knowledge

- of places
- how people live
- what foods people grow
- impacts on the environment of these foods they grow to consume (eat)
- respond by collating a list of the foods grown at home by this class

Science – look for things mentioned

- about the needs of these plants
- how these needs are supplied
- effects of growing these plants on the environment

respond by surveying lunch at school for what is consumed and how much care is taken with disposal of its wastes.

Sustainability – Family farming – growing foods that your family eats – is very important for food security.

Look for how the food is a part of the environment in which these families live

Consider how sustainable their farming practises seem to be

Survey who grows food at home for the family use and how that contributes to sustainability

(through low food miles)

Reflect on where the food you eat for lunch comes from – and what issues for sustainability long-term that may have

There are more family farm snapshots from the Wimmera, Victoria, Australia, Samoa, France, and Canada at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/>

This collection will continue to grow with contributions as it is a IYFF+10 project – the continuation of the World Rural Forum's International Year of Family Farming in 2014, because this type of farming is so important for food security.

Thanks

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IYFF+10

for family farm snapshots familyfarms.enviroed4all The IYFF is now the IYFF+10 – the continuation of promoting awareness of family farming (FF) and its benefits and challenges to the world. The FF snapshots project continues as part of that, hopefully inspiring readers with lovely farms and food from as many different locations as possible, while growing this educational resource.



For soils: soils.enviroed4all 2015 is also the International Year of Soils. Soils are already a part of FF snapshots. IYS15's aim is likewise to promote awareness, benefits and challenges of soils especially for food security and environmental services.

note – Most of my projects are unfunded and seeking funding, so if you can help in this way, please contact me.

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