

Race Equity Learning - Food and Farming

“The challenges before us are monumental. We are not obligated to complete the task of repair, but we are required to act at the intersection of our capability and what the world needs. To maintain silence is to cast our vote for the status quo, to passively endorse a racist and exploitative food system, and to deny ourselves agency over the destiny of our community.”

-Leah Penniman

Stats to consider:

- Industrial agriculture contributes to 23% of total greenhouse gas emissions. Methane from animal agriculture has an effect on global warming 28 times higher than Carbon Dioxide.
- Agriculture causes issues of desertification, deforestation and soil degradation: 75% of the Amazon deforestation is associated with livestock production; 60% of deforestation of the Indonesian rainforest is traced back to palm oil production.
- In developing countries, the agriculture sectors (crops and livestock, fisheries and aquaculture and forestry) absorb 26% of the total damage and losses from climate-related disasters. These impacts aggravate food insecurity and intensify migration around the world.
- It is estimated that Black and ethnic minorities in the UK are 1.5 times at risk of food insecurity as White-British.
- Historically, biopiracy* has been linked to colonialism, with formerly colonised countries having many of their resources forcibly removed. Pepper, sugar, coffee, or quinine did, and still do, have significant impact on the world economies. All of them have a colonial past.

Suggested resources:

- **YouTube Video: Soul Fire Farm (~ 11 mins) - [How This Activist Farmer Fights Racism Through Food | TODAY Original](#)**
- **Podcast (~17 mins from 2.20 min - 19.30 min): [52: Oxford Real Farming Conference, social justice & land, new forms of land ownership by Farmerama Radio](#)**
- **Article (~5 minutes): [Shining a Light on Racial Inequality and Food Insecurity – Bankuet ®](#)**
- **YouTube Video (~5 mins): [Vandana Shiva - No Patents on Seeds!](#)**
- **Article (~5 mins): [Dark Emu's infinite potential: 'Our kids have grown up in a fog about the history of the land'](#)**

Questions to consider:

- What did you learn from the resources?
- Was anything surprising?
- Was there anything you didn't understand?
- Do you think anything you learned could apply SOS-UK?

***Biopiracy** is the unethical or unlawful appropriation or commercial exploitation of biological materials (such as medicinal plant extracts) that are native to a particular country or territory without providing fair financial compensation to the people or government of that country or territory.

Further reading / research

YouTube:

- What is Regenerative Agriculture?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSEtiixgRJI>
- How Cuban agriculture went from industrial to sustainable
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZ0tovrhf5Y>
- Indigenous-led Permaculture Brings Resilience And Food Sovereignty
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZk8j1Lhi6l>
- Trying to Eat Healthy in a Food Desert
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDbENx9c3Fg>
- Food Justice: Fixing our broken food system
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xA6p0w2Xoqg>
- Food + Justice = Democracy
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydZfSuz-Hu8>

Films:

- Kiss the Ground - www.kissthegroundmovie.com
- The Seeds of Vandana Shiva - <https://vandanashivamovie.com/>
- Rotten - Netflix
- Gather - <https://gather.film/>

Reads:

- Food Deserts: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/oct/12/more-than-a-million-uk-residents-live-in-food-deserts-says-study>
- Farmer Protests: <https://clf.jhsph.edu/viewpoints/farmers-protest-new-laws-could-expand-industrial-food-production-india>
- Right to Food: <https://globalnutritionreport.org/blog/equity-and-right-food-systemic-approach-tackling-malnutrition/>
- Diversity in Food: <https://www.sustainweb.org/jelliedeel/articles/sep20-diversity-good-foods-missing-ingredient/>
- Hunger: <https://newint.org/features/2020/09/30/hunger-facts>
- Black Women in the Food Industry: <https://www.goodfoodjobs.com/blog/black-women-come-of-age-in-the-food-industry-a-conversation-with-chef-toni-lynn-dickinson/>
- Decolonizing Veganism: <https://www.goodfoodjobs.com/blog/black-women-come-of-age-in-the-food-industry-a-conversation-with-chef-toni-lynn-dickinson/>

- Racism in the Food Industry: <https://www.feedthelion.co.uk/racism-food-industry-nadiya-saliha-zaleha/>
- Fried Chicken <https://www.theguardian.com/food/2020/oct/13/ive-always-loved-fried-chicken-but-the-racism-surrounding-it-shamed-me>

Podcasts:

- How COVID-19 has exposed inequalities in the UK food system: <https://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/how-covid-19-has-exposed-inequalities-uk-food-system>
- Root to Seed: <https://anchor.fm/community-food-initiatives>
- Farmerama Radio: <https://farmerama.co/>
- For a Better World: <https://fairworldproject.org/podcast/season-1/>
- The Food Programme (BBC): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qnx3/episodes/player>
Recommended episode: Seed Stories from the Lockdown: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000k1c8>
- Frontline food: <https://www.frontlinefoodcast.co/>

Other:

- Braiding sweetgrass (book)
- <https://peopleslandpolicy.home.blog/2021/04/05/the-uk-and-the-global-food-justice-movement-seminar-recordings-now-available/>
- [Challenge Pre-work - 2021 Discussion Forum & Daily Prompts \(foodsolutionsne.org\)](https://foodsolutionsne.org/)
- [Land Literacy - Shared Assets](#)
- [Resources | Three Acres And A Cow](#)
- <https://landworkersalliance.org.uk/>
- <https://landinournames.community/>
- Sugar and Slavery: <https://bit.ly/2PxyHRs>

Stats to consider - sources:

1. <https://www.greenfacts.org/en/index.htm>
2. <https://www.rainforest-rescue.org/topics/palm-oil#start>
3. <https://oceanconservancy.org/>
4. [Shining a Light on Racial Inequality and Food Insecurity – Bankuet ®](#)
5. <https://theconversation.com/biopiracy-when-indigenous-knowledge-is-patented-for-profit-55589>