



15 Minute
Farmer
Time

TEACHER OVERVIEW

Marvellous Mushrooms



Outcomes:

- Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things. ([VCSSU057](#))
- Different living things have different life cycles and depend on each other and the environment to survive. ([VCSSU058](#))
- Investigate food and fibre production in modern or traditional societies. ([VCDSTC025](#))
- Investigate the suitability of materials, systems, components, tools and equipment for a range of purposes. ([VCDSTC027](#))
- Critique needs or opportunities for designing and explore and test a variety of materials, components, tools and equipment and the techniques needed to create designed solutions. ([VCDSCD028](#))
- Generate, communicate and develop design ideas and decisions using appropriate technical terms and graphical representation techniques. ([VCDSCD029](#))
- Select and use materials, components, tools and equipment using safe work practices to produce designed solutions. ([VCDSCS030](#))
- Evaluate design ideas, processes and solutions based on criteria for success developed with guidance and including care for the environment and communities. ([VCDSCD031](#))

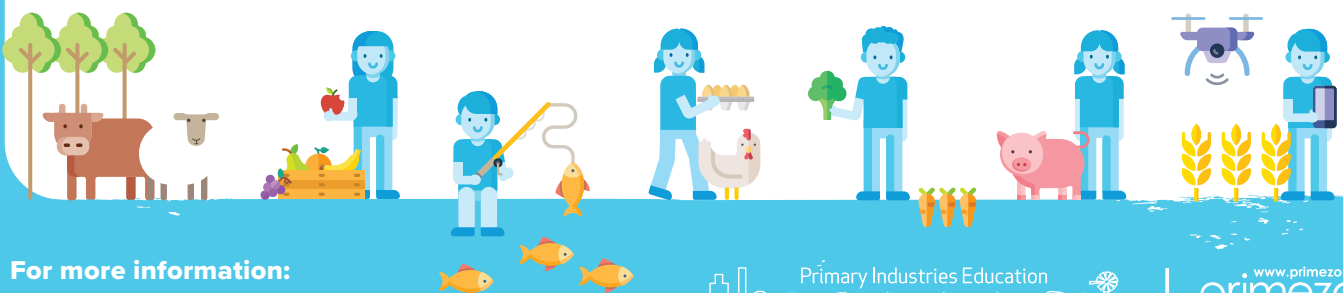
Lesson Description:

This 15-Minute Farmer Time explores the features and needs of mushrooms. Students will have the opportunity to hear first-hand from Victorian mushroom producer, Georgia from Bulla Park Organic Mushroom farm, before completing a series of interactive online tasks to develop their understanding of the life cycle of mushrooms; the ideal conditions mushrooms need to grow; and the observable features of mushrooms. Students will have the opportunity to create a spore print using hands-on materials and will apply their problem-solving skills when designing and creating a prototype of sustainable packaging used for mushroom distribution.

Resources:

- Internet/computer access for provided links
- Printable [Design Template Worksheet](#)
- A4 black or white paper
- A mushroom
- Hairspray
- Scissors
- Assorted design materials (suggestions: paper, cork, glass or plastic jars, cardboard, string, paper plates/bowls, decorative materials)
- Scissors
- Glue

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Activity Sequence:

- **Activity 1:** Farmer Profile Read or Listen Task
- **Activity 2:** VIC Farmer Time Video
- **Activity 3:** Complete the Sentences Interactive Task
- **Activity 4:** Label the External Features of a Mushroom Interactive Task
- **Activity 5:** Making a Spore Print
- **Activity 6:** The Life Cycle of a Mushroom Interactive Task
- **Activity 7:** Sustainable Packaging Design Challenge

Links:

- **Farmer Georgia's Profile:** <https://farmertime.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Pre-Recorded-Farmer-Profiles.pdf>
- **VIC Farmer Time – Mushroom Production:** <https://youtu.be/5RGezmNp54k>
- **How to Make a Spore Print Video Instructions:** <https://youtu.be/BFzDyuWHMWY>
- **Design Challenge Video Instructions:** <https://youtu.be/BFzDyuWHMWY>
- **Printable Design Template Activity Sheet:** <https://farmertime.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Design-your-own-sustainable-mushroom-packaging-worksheet.pdf>

