

**DATE:** August 15, 2001  
**TIME:** 60 minutes

**GROUP:** K-4  
**ACTIVITY:** Hayride Tour of Orchard

**MACKEY'S ORCHARD  
SAMPLE LESSON PLAN**

**SUBJECT:** Apple Production

**LESSON SUMMARY:** Apple trees are one of the most popular fruit trees in the world and will live about 35 years if properly nurtured. Students will gain a foundation and basic understanding of the process and tasks to produce apples and cider.

**OBJECTIVES:**

- To gain familiarity with apple types and varieties.
- To introduce students to the fundamentals of growing fruit.
- The students will know how to select and handle apples.
- The student will appreciate what tasks an orchard operator must perform.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION ACTIVITIES	TIME
ORCHARD LOCATION	History of the Farm and Orchard Safety Rules A Family Business Crops Grown	10 minutes
TYPES & VARIETIES OF APPLES	Uses for Our Apples Varieties Grown in this Orchard Parts of the Tree Climate and Seasons Other Fruits Grown	10 minutes
PLANTING	Soil Preparation Tree Spacing Standard vs. Dwarf Trees Grafting	10 minutes
ORCHARD MANAGEMENT	Pruning Trellis and Free Standing Rodent Control Insect & Disease Control Thinning of Fruit	10 minutes
HARVEST & MAKETING	Washing & Grading Packing Containers Sizes and Types Cooling and Storage Making Cider Pasteurizing Cider Bottling	15 minutes
WRAP-UP	Questions The Market/Bakery Samples –Cider or Apple Product	5 minutes

**EXERCISE:**

1. List the various colors of apples seen.
2. Discuss what influences the variety of apple trees planted.
3. Discuss why orchardists prune tree limbs.
4. Discuss the climate necessary for fruit production.

**- MACKEY'S ORCHARD CONTINUED -**

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**RESOURCES:**

International Apple Institute, McLean VA

U.S. Apple Association, [www.usapple.org](http://www.usapple.org)

NJ apple varieties: [www.state.nj.us/agriculture/appletypes.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/agriculture/appletypes.htm),

NJ apple facts: <http://www.state.nj.us/hangout/apple.html>

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Publications [www.rce.rutgers.edu](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu)

FS112 Apple Spray Schedule for New Jersey Home Orchard