



How To...

Pick Apple Activities All Year

This universal symbol for the classroom makes a wonderful management tool!

An apple a day may or may not keep the doctor away, but it's a useful theme to motivate your students as the school doors open for the new year.

A bushel basket of ideas

Plant a *papier-mâché* apple tree in your classroom. Surround it with bright red and green pillows for an inviting reading or studying corner. Fill the tree with apple-shaped task cards and rotate them throughout the year. Here are some resources for your apple cards:

1 *Apple book titles.* Obtain a list of apple books and a list of teacher resources about apples for a literature-based unit covering science and social studies for K-2. www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/apple/appletg.html

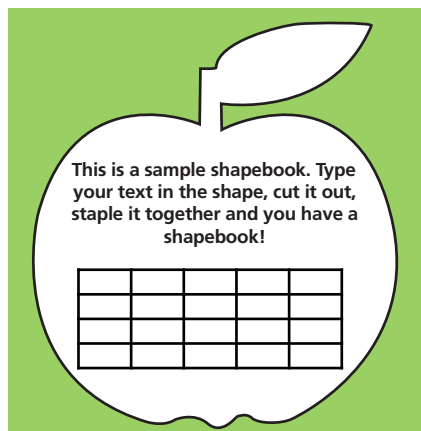
2 *Apple facts.* "Wow!" was my response to *Apples & More*, a comprehensive site with apple history, growing guidelines and nutrition facts. www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/apples/fun.html

3 *Apple-a-day chart.* Use the apple reproducible on the next page to track completed activities for an "Apple of the Teacher's Eye" student achievement board. Just add a chart for tracking completed activities.

4 *Apple teacher kits.* Download PDF lessons and cross-curricular activity pages for grades K-6 from www.nyapplecountry.com/teacherkits.htm

A peck of activities

The Internet is filled with apple-themed resources. Google and Answers.com generate thousands of search results from



Choose from dozens of apple activities like this one at www.abcteach.com I added a chart to track activities.

the keyword apple. Following are some sample key searches; you can find even more in our Bonus Curriculum section at www.TeachingK-8.com

1 *Apple themes.* Test your apple I.Q. with Apple Trivia from www.bestapples.com/kids/trivia.html Want to be prepared for this quiz? Click on Apple Varieties, Health and Nutrition, Core Facts and Apple Facts for answers.

- There is also a usage chart for popular varieties that's perfect for math class. Just post the chart and students can write math word problems and graph the answers.
- Use the pome family, the plant group for the apple, to create an apple poem. Did you know the rose is in the same family? Use your imagination to create a Pome Poem.
- abcteach® www.abcteach.com/directory/theme_units/month_to_month/i_september/ Lots of apple

activities! Choose from the free downloads, or sign up for membership and login to access all the resources at this rich site: shapebooks, word wall lists, word scrambles and crossword puzzles. Click *ABCTools* in the menu to create your own free pages. An annual subscription is \$25.

- Apple Webquest www.manteno.k12.il.us/llacossewebquest.htm This well-planned webquest guides primary students through Internet research to find lots of apple facts, with downloadable activity pages for many of the tasks. There is even a simple rubric for assessment. Be sure to test your thinking skills with the apple riddles – and maybe write your own.

2 *Apple Geography.* See if you can recreate the travels of John Chapman, aka Johnny Appleseed, from his hometown in Leominster, MA, into Pennsylvania and Ohio. Where is the closest apple orchard to your school? What states are known for their apples and what variety do they grow?

3 *Apple Legends and Folk Heroes.* Research the legends and folktales about apples. Johnny Appleseed is the official folk hero of Massachusetts. Does your state have a folk hero? Who would you nominate as folk hero of your community? This is a great starting point for studying biographies.

Whether you use it now or as a theme later in the year, the apple is a great organizer!

Reproducible on next page

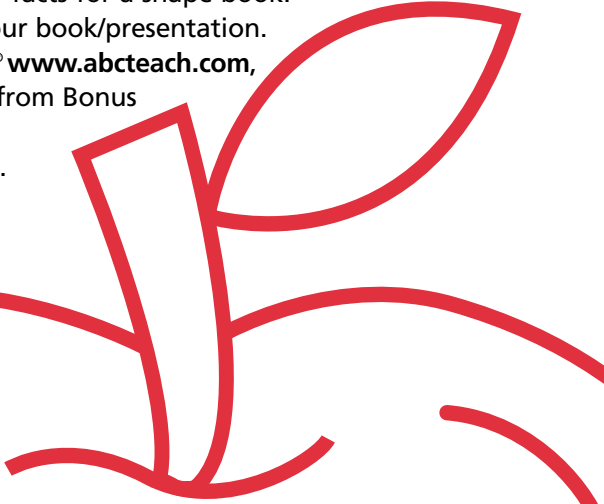
A FRUITFUL QUEST

A TEACHING K-8 REPRODUCIBLE
 A TEACHING K-8 REPRODUCIBLE

Student Name _____

Team Name _____

1. Choose an activity from the list.
2. Research your topic and record your facts for a shape book.
3. Find pictures and charts to use in your book/presentation.
4. Use the shape below, visit abcteach® www.abcteach.com, or download a Word Shape template from Bonus Curriculum at www.TeachingK-8.com
5. Record bibliography of all resources.



Activities

1. Find an apple recipe for a class apple-shaped cookbook.
2. Research the different apple varieties and chart them.
3. Plan an apple-tasting party and graph the class favorites.
4. Make apple prints. Design your own apple stationery.
5. Research the history of apple-head dolls. Create a step-by-step guide for making one.
6. Research and create an apple nutrition guide for National School Lunch Week (October 10-14).
7. Collect apple stories from the newspaper or online news sources.
8. Visit www.TeachingK-8.com/pdf/apple_quest.pdf for more activities.

Apple Star Achievement

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Weekend	Bonus

Apple Webquest Resources:

- ProTeachers! Apple thematic unit: www.proteacher.com/020026.shtml
- It's Apple Pickin' Time: www.thevirtualvine.com/apples.html
- New York Apple Country: www.nyapplecountry.com/teacherkits.htm

Make a star stamp from the center seeds of the apple to mark completed chart activities – or get apple shapes and stamps from www.accucut.com or www.ellison.com Type "apple" in the search box to see projects and ideas with the apple theme. Type "rubber stamp" at Ellison to link to directions for making rubber stamps. ✂

