

# Farmstand Business Curriculum

→ Lesson 3: Introduction to Urban Farming

**GROW**<sup>NYC</sup>

# Lesson Outline

- What is the difference between industrial and small-scale agriculture?
- What is urban agriculture?
- What are some examples of different types of farming in urban settings?
- What method of food production do we think will support our local community?



# Warm-up



or



# What is industrial agriculture?

- Large-scale production of crops, animals, and animal products
- Often uses chemical fertilizers and may use genetically modified crops in order to produce maximum yield



# What is industrial agriculture?

- Challenges: Focuses on profits over over treatment, health, and wellbeing of farm workers, animals, and environment
- Can you think of any benefits?





Industrial corn farm in Iowa

# What is small-scale farming?

- Usually use less machinery and fewer chemical inputs
- Stewards biodiverse and pollinator habitats
- Sometimes considered organic or use organic practices
- Generally works more harmoniously with the soil and environment



# What is small-scale farming?

Challenges: Expensive start-up costs,  
more human labor and time needed  
for smaller output





Soul Fire Farm in Grafton, NY  
*Soul Fire is BIPOC-centered and utilizes  
organic and ancestral practices*

# What is urban agriculture?

- The practice of cultivating, processing, and distributing food in or around urban areas.
- Sometimes makes use of empty spaces in cities to turn into gardens or green spaces.
- Incorporates more environmental equity in lower resourced areas - communities of color reclaiming land in urban settings



GrowNYC Teaching Garden at Governors Island



New Roots Community Farm  
Bronx, NY

# Activity One: Urban Farm Research



# Activity One

## Group One - Aquaponic Farming



# Activity One

## Group Two - Rooftop Farming



# Activity One

## Group Three - Community Gardens



# Activity One

## Group Four - Traditional Farming

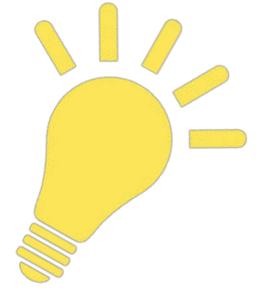


# Activity One

## Group Five - Hydroponic Farming



# Discussion Questions:



- What are the benefits beyond food that an urban farm might provide? Consider the environment, communities, and broader mission of food access

# Activity Two: Urban Farm Design Lab



# Reflection Questions:

- What method of food production seems possible for our school community? Why?
- What do you envision for a food access point that supports this urban production plan?

# Questions?

