Goods on the Move

Trace how transportation connects places that trade.

4.C.4.3 "Describe the patterns and networks of economic interdependence among regions and the world. Explain how transportation routes connect economic regions and support economic growth (e.g., St. Lawrence Seaway, Transcontinental Railroad…"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two routes used to move goods, circle one U.S. export and one U.S. import, and number two stops on one product's trip in travel order.

From Farm to Far Away

1. In Kansas, a farmer harvests wheat that can become bread in other countries. A train carries the grain toward a port on the Great Lakes. Ships can then travel through the St. Lawrence Seaway, a route of canals, locks, rivers, and lakes that connects the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean. At the port, workers load grain, and ships carry it to buyers across the ocean.

2. Now follow a banana on its way to a U.S. breakfast table. Bananas grow well in warm places, such as Costa Rica, but not in most of the United States. A ship brings bananas to a U.S. ocean port. Trucks use interstate highways to take them to stores far inland. Without the ship and highway links, many families would have fewer fresh food choices.

3. These trips make a network: farms, ports, roads, stores, and buyers depend on one another. The United States exports some wheat and imports bananas because places have different growing conditions and needs. Selling wheat gives farmers more buyers, while buying bananas lets stores offer a food grown elsewhere. More trade can bring work to truck drivers, port workers, and store workers. Transportation helps these places trade and grow.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do a train and the St. Lawrence Seaway work together to get Kansas wheat to buyers across the ocean?

2. Why do bananas travel by ship and then by truck on interstate highways?

3. How do different growing conditions help explain why the United States imports bananas and exports wheat?

4. How can selling wheat to buyers across the ocean bring work to people at a Great Lakes port?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a trade trip for a product not named in the passage. In 3 or 4 sentences, tell where it starts and goes, how two kinds of transportation connect those places, and one way the trade helps people in each place.

ANSWER KEY

Goods on the Move

GRADE 4 · 4.C.4.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline two routes used to move goods, circle one U.S. export and one U.S. import, and number two stops on one product's trip in travel order. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do a train and the St. Lawrence Seaway work together to get Kansas wheat to buyers across the ocean?	**A train takes wheat toward a Great Lakes port. Ships use the St. Lawrence Seaway to reach the Atlantic Ocean and carry the wheat to buyers.**
2	Why do bananas travel by ship and then by truck on interstate highways?	**A ship brings bananas to a U.S. ocean port. Trucks use interstate highways to take them to stores far inland.**
3	How do different growing conditions help explain why the United States imports bananas and exports wheat?	**Bananas grow well in warm places but not in most of the United States, so Americans import them. U.S. farmers grow wheat that they can sell to buyers in other countries.**
4	How can selling wheat to buyers across the ocean bring work to people at a Great Lakes port?	**Port workers load the wheat onto ships that carry it to those buyers.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Oranges grow in Florida, and some buyers in Canada want them. A truck takes the oranges from a Florida farm to a rail station, and a train carries them into Canada. Florida growers gain more customers, while Canadian shoppers can buy fruit grown in warmer weather.

For Your Turn, accept other realistic products and routes if the response names two kinds of transportation and explains a benefit in both places.