



Postdining

Food & Geography

Sustaining the Farm



Outcomes

By the end of this class you will...

- Have a better understanding of the changing and competing uses for land in Australia, with a focus on the City of Casey.
- Be able to identify key challenges and opportunities with the environmental changes occurring, and name the push and pull factors.
- Be able to analyse where change is occurring and deduce why certain areas are facing these changes.

Background

Casey farmers are currently facing several issues to keep their farms not only profitable but running...



Population Growth

The growing population of Melbourne has meant that residential land barriers have been pushed further and further out, encroaching on what was once agricultural land.





Innovation

This has resulted in farmers innovating their farming practices, to look at ways in which they can continue mass food production on less available land.

This may only provide a short-term solution, as some farmers believe it is only a matter of time before they lose the land completely.

Activity: Discuss the following questions in groups of 3-4 around your tables

Name areas which have been developed in your lifetime... how do you feel about these new suburbs?



WATCH: Sustaining the Farm Part 1



Activity: Answer these questions in your workbook

- 1. Why was the City of Casey considered to be good farming land?
- 2. What is happening to land use here?
- 3. What are some of the challenges with having a farm so close to urban areas?
- 4. If the farms need to relocate, where could they go? How did the farmers grapple with a potential move?

WATCH: Sustaining the Farm Part 2



Activity: In groups of 4-6, discuss these questions and present your answers back to the class

- How much should we pay for food?
- Why do we see food as disposable in modern society?
- Should we increase the price to prevent some of the challenges with food waste? If so, how much?

WATCH: Sustaining the Farm Part 3



Activity: Answer these questions in your workbook

- 1. How important is it to grow and consume food locally? Why/Why not?
- 2. What is a food swamp? Would the City of Casey be considered a food swamp or desert?
- 3. How can goods (like food) connect people to places, communities and the consumer systems?

Map and Data Activity:

Changing Land Use in the Casey-Cardinia region

Homework Activity:

Summarise the concerns and impacts of the farmers in the Case Study