

TEACHER NOTES:

- Before the first read
 - Do [slides #1- #4](#)
- First read
 - Read aloud to students
 - Choral Read the introductory paragraph
 - There are two videos to watch, as needed
- Second Read
 - Assign partners and do the fill in the blank.
 - One partner reads the solid copy while the other partner fills in the blank lines.
 - Students answer the “thinking questions” as partners. The idea is to start a discussion. Here are some things to consider to get your students thinking
 - If the money is provided by the government, who provides the government with money?
 - Who decides how tax money is spent?
 - What else does the government spend tax money on?
 - Does the tax money get paid back if the farmer makes more profit?
 - Where do the farmers' profits go?
 -
- Third read
 - Editing pages
- Fourth Read

Name: _____

Date: _____

Opinion: Government Subsidies help California farmers

Introduction

I believe that government subsidies help California farmers. A subsidy is money or support given by the government to help people do important work. California farmers do important work because they grow food for millions of people. That is why I think subsidies are helpful and necessary.

Stabilization

Government subsidies help California farmers by stabilizing their income. Dr. Daniel Sumner, a professor of agriculture at UC Davis, said, “Subsidies help stabilize farm income when markets are uncertain” (2024). Sometimes, when a crop goes bad or a farmer has a bad year, sometimes the farmer will quit farming. If this happens on a large scale, California would be out of farmers! If farmers are subsidized, then the government would pay them when their crops do not grow well. Markets are often uncertain in California. For example, the years between 2012 and 2016 were considered a serious drought. Between 2020 and 2022, drought happened again. With subsidies, farmers can still buy seeds, fix irrigation systems, and keep their farms running. This shows how subsidies protect farmers during tough times.

Protection for workers

Second, government subsidies help California farmers by helping the farm workers hired by the farm owner. In this case, subsidies help farmers pay for tools, water, and safe equipment so workers can do their jobs well. Carmen Ponce, a farmworker advocate in California’s Central Valley, explained, “Support programs give farms the resources they need to stay productive and protect their workers” (2021).

Conclusion

Government subsidies help California farmers because they give support, resources, and stability. Farmers grow the food that feeds our communities, and subsidies help them succeed even when conditions are hard. That is why government help is important for California agriculture.

Partner who is reading: _____ Partner who is writing: _____

Opinion: Government Subsidies help California farmers

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Stabilization

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Thinking Questions

Name: _____

1. Is it possible that government subsidies to farmers can hurt communities?

2. Where does the money come from for government subsidies?

Editing

Name: _____

Directions: There are at least fourteen mistakes in the following paragraph. Please edit the following paragraph for those mistakes.

Goverment subsidies help California farmers by stabilize their income. Dr. Daniel Sumner a professor of agriculture at UC Davis said ‘Subsidies help stabilize farm income when markets are uncertain.’ Sometimes, when a crop goes bad or a farmer has a bad year, sometimes the farmer will quit farming. If this happens on a large scale, California would be out of farmers! If farmers subsidized, then the goverment would pay them when their crops do not grow well. Markets are often certain in California. For example, the years between 2012 were considered a serious drought. Between 2020 and 2022, drought hapened again. With subsidies, farmers can still by seeds, fix irigation systems, and keep their farms running. This shows how subsidies protect farmers during tough times.

Word Search!

Name: _____ Date: _____



Find and circle each of the words from the list below. Words may appear horizontally or vertically, but forwards only.

E	E	K	L	Y	I	F	R	Z	Y	O	U	D	E	T	R
I	P	F	U	U	I	A	C	T	R	S	T	Z	Q	F	Q
U	M	I	O	A	C	R	S	R	E	E	Y	X	U	A	H
T	E	I	I	T	P	M	U	L	N	R	T	M	I	R	H
S	U	B	S	I	D	I	E	S	X	I	S	A	P	M	U
C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	O	U	R	M	E	N
G	O	V	E	R	N	M	E	N	T	U	P	K	E	R	C
C	R	O	P	I	X	B	B	H	C	S	P	E	N	V	E
Z	U	I	Y	A	U	I	I	E	E	D	O	T	T	A	R
A	P	E	O	P	L	E	I	M	P	O	R	T	A	N	T
D	R	O	U	G	H	T	W	O	O	U	T	E	O	G	A
A	D	V	O	C	A	T	E	I	N	C	O	M	E	U	I
T	A	G	R	I	C	U	L	T	U	R	E	Y	Y	A	N
B	T	W	F	I	S	T	D	M	P	S	Q	R	M	D	B

government drought agriculture subsidies equipment
support farm important california uncertain advocate
people market crop farmer serious income

Word Search!

ANSWER KEY



Find and circle each of the words from the list below. Words may appear horizontally or vertically, but forwards only.

E	E	K	L	Y	I	F	R	Z	Y	O	U	D	E	T	R
I	P	F	U	U	I	A	C	T	R	S	T	Z	Q	F	Q
U	M	I	O	A	C	R	S	R	E	E	Y	X	U	A	H
T	E	I	I	T	P	M	U	L	N	R	T	M	I	R	H
S	U	B	S	I	D	I	E	S	X	I	S	A	P	M	U
C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	O	U	R	M	E	N
G	O	V	E	R	N	M	E	N	T	U	P	K	E	R	C
C	R	O	P	I	X	B	B	H	C	S	P	E	N	V	E
Z	U	I	Y	A	U	I	I	E	E	D	O	T	T	A	R
A	P	E	O	P	L	E	I	M	P	O	R	T	A	N	T
D	R	O	U	G	H	T	W	O	O	U	T	E	O	G	A
A	D	V	O	C	A	T	E	I	N	C	O	M	E	U	I
T	A	G	R	I	C	U	L	T	U	R	E	Y	Y	A	N
B	T	W	F	I	S	T	D	M	P	S	Q	R	M	D	B