

Mandarin-Teaching Points

K-2 Grades

Reasons to Eat Mandarins?

- ❖ Mandarins are an excellent source of vitamin C.
- ❖ Vitamin C helps prevent sickness.
- ❖ Mandarins are a good source of vitamin A.
- ❖ Vitamin A helps your eyes see in the dark.



What's In a Name?

- ❖ Mandarin oranges are not oranges. To keep it simple, we call them mandarins.
- ❖ There is more than one kind of mandarin.
- ❖ Satsuma and tangelo are a few of the other varieties of mandarins.
- ❖ Some people call mandarins, mandarin tangerines. But that is not correct.
- ❖ The name tangerine is used to refer to mandarins of a deep, orange-red color.

Just the Facts

- ❖ The oranges we grow in California are nice looking because of our dry climate.
- ❖ Citrus fruit that does not look as good on the outside as some are usually used for juice.
- ❖ Clementines are the most popular type of mandarin. We can buy California Clementines in the grocery stores from mid November through January.
- ❖ Because of the time of year they are available, Clementines have the nickname "Christmas Orange"

A Slice of Mandarin History

- ❖ Florida also grows mandarins and oranges.
- ❖ In 1997, a cold, cold winter in Florida ruined their orange and mandarin trees.
- ❖ California sent lots of Clementines all across the United States so the people could have them in their grocery stores. People loved California Clementines.

Home Grown

- ❖ California leads production of fresh citrus (oranges, mandarins, lemons, grapefruit etc.) and is second to Florida in total citrus production (like making juices and other products made from citrus fruits).
- ❖ California is the nation's second leading grower of mandarins and leads our countries production of Clementines.
- ❖ As far as counties, our Tulare County is one of the leading counties for mandarin production.
- ❖ Satsumas, Clementines, and Minneola tangelos are the State's top three mandarin varieties.

Eat Your Colors

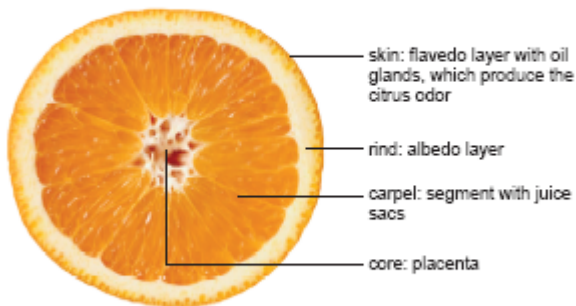
- ❖ Eating fruits and vegetables from the yellow/orange color group are so good for us! They help to keep our heart and eyes healthy, and keep us from getting sick. What are some other fruits and vegetables in the yellow/orange color group?

How Does Citrus Grow?

- ❖ Citrus plants are large shrubs or small trees. They have shiny leaves that stay on the tree all winter and wonderful smelling flowers. Have you smelled orange blossoms?
- ❖ It will take most citrus trees two to five years to blossom after planting.
- ❖ Citrus fruits can be left on the tree without becoming overripe and do not continue to ripen after being picked.
- ❖ For a labeled cross section of the orange and mandarin below, download from www.harvestofthemoth.com/EdCorner/download/images-graphs/botanical/cycle2/mandarin.pdf and

www.harvestofthemoth.com/EdCorner/download/images-graphs/botanical/cycle1/orng_diagram.pdf

Oranges



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Mandarins



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