

# USING A VISIT AS A STARTING POINT

DEVELOPED BY KAREN WILLIAMS

## Why go on a visit?

- It motivates pupils by providing first-hand experience of what a strawberry farm is like. Active learning helps pupils to retain knowledge and understanding.
- It provides the opportunity to ask purposeful questions of a real person and also to empathise with and question their answers.
- It gives pupils a greater feeling of connection with their local environment and the local economy.

The focus group for the work described here was a KS1/2 class but the activities could easily be adapted for older pupils.

## Before the visit:

- Bring in some strawberries or use a photo of strawberries. Ask the children to brainstorm what they know about them already. Think of questions they could ask about strawberries.

## During the visit:



## After the visit:

- Use photos from the visit to create a booklet explaining how strawberries are produced. Further information about strawberry production can be found on the CD.
- Use the Village Magazine letter to stimulate debate about polytunnels. Brainstorm the pros and cons of polytunnels and use these in a reply to the Parish Council. The viewpoints of different community members can be found in the interviews on the CD.
- Investigate where other fruit comes from and mark this on a map. Analyse the pros and cons of importing fruit.

### STAUNTON VILLAGE MAGAZINE

We have heard that a local farmer is planning to grow strawberries in Staunton. He will be putting up 5 hectares of polytunnels in the field across the road from the school. The Parish Council would like to know what people in the village think about this.

*Imaginary article in local magazine*



*Finding out where fruit in local shops has come from*

Dear Mr Bennet  
we think it is a bad idea because it will spoil the fields. Block the view. the view from the sky will not be very good because the polytunnels will be every where. But it will be good because we will get more strawberries to eat. we wont have to tell the other countries to bring their strawberries because when they bring them in boats or aeroplanes they send out a lot of pollution

yours sincerely

Jaks

*Year 3 pupil's reply to Village Magazine letter*