

FRUIT

Brainstorm everything you know about fruit.
Think both scientifically and practically.

Can you think of any fictional stories that have fruit as a symbol or theme in the narrative?

What thoughts and feelings does fruit or fruit bearing trees/vines stir up inside of you?

List as many Bible stories as you can recall that feature fruit.

Read this selection of verses and ponder God's use of the theme in Scripture:

Genesis 1:11-12, 1:27-29, 3:2-6

Leviticus 19:23-25, 26:3-12

Psalms 1:3, 128:1-4

Isaiah 3:10-11, 27:6

John 15:1-16

Galatians 5:22

Colossians 1:3-10

Look up the definition for this Hebrew word:

Periy (H6529)

פֶּרִי

How does the mouth relate to fruit?
Read and ponder:

Proverbs 12:14, 13:2, 18:20-21

Jeremiah 12:2, Hebrews 13:15, Matt 3:8

Take some time to reflect on God's creation of fruit.
How does fruit give glory to Jesus & illustrate God's living story?
Have you made any new discoveries?

ENGAGE IN WONDER

How does fruit illustrate God's living story? Reflect on all you've learned.

Here are some additional questions to ignite your curiosity and imagination:

- Consider the entire life-cycle of a tree. What takes place before any fruit develops? Consider how this relates to our spiritual formation.
- How can you tell the difference between fruit that is good & sweet vs. fruit that is rotten or tasteless?
- What causes good fruit to be sweet? List everything that helped that fruit to become as sweet as possible?
- Why do you think God made fruit colorful and sweet and fun to eat?
- How are fruit and seeds connected? Ponder God's use of exponential expansion throughout creation.
- God's physical illustrations often point to a spiritual parallel. Consider the fruit of the Spirit alongside physical fruit, what connections can you make? (Gal 5:22-23)
- Leaves represent a "covering" in the Bible. How are leaves and fruit connected?