The Travelling Tomato



Resource Sheet

Part 1 Role Cards

1. Mexican Farmer (Carlos)

"Hi, I am Carlos, the Farmer. Look at all these green tomatoes I have to pick today. They're not ripe yet, but I have to pick them like this so that they won't over ripen and rot on the long journey to the grocery store. But first, I need to spray them with pesticides to keep the bugs away".

3. Truck Driver (Mark)

"Hi, I am Mark, and I truck the tomatoes from Mexico. It's a long drive to Canada. These tomatoes have thousands of kilometres to travel."

5. Grocery Store Owner (Judal)

"Hi, I am Judal. Wow, these tomatoes have travelled more than I have! It seems strange to buy a product from far away that we could have grown in our community."

4. Warehouse Owner (Sally)

"Hi, I am Sally! These tomatoes are still green! Before I can deliver them to the grocery store, I need to use ethylene gas to speed up the ripening process. Ethylene occurs naturally in plants when they are ripening and is responsible for changing tomatoes from green to pink to red."

2. Boss (Juan)

"Hi, I am Juan, Carlos' boss. Thank you for the tomatoes, Carlos. Keep working hard; we have lots of deliveries to make. These tomatoes have to be in Canada by next week".

6. Consumer (Kim)

"Hi, I am Kim. Here I am in the grocery store. I need to find some tomatoes to make spaghetti sauce. Here's one...it's kind of hard, and from far away...but it's the only tomato available."

Part 2 Role Cards

1. Local Organic Farmer (Sylvia)

"Hi, I am Sylvia, and I live on a farm just outside your community. I've been taking care of this tomato since I planted it in the spring. Now it's red and ripe for picking. Tomorrow I'll take it to the local farmers market and sell it to someone from the community."

2. Consumer (Michael)

"Hi, I am Michael. I love coming to the farmer's market...look at all this beautiful food! I also get to see friends, and meet the people that grow, harvest, fish and hunt for the food I eat. Hi Sylvia, your tomatoes look great, I think I'll buy some for making spaghetti sauce."







