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Purdue University Global

Discovering Science - Current Issues in a Changing World

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**Assignment Table:** **Part 1: Data Collection**

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| **Identity of food item 1: Orange Juice from Walmart**  <https://www.walmart.com/ip/Great-Value-100-Pasteurized-Orange-Juice-with-No-Pulp-52-fl-oz/403284742?athbdg=L1600> | |
| 1. Where was the food item produced? | Brazil, South America |
| 2. Approximately how far would the food item have to travel to get to your city/town? | The product would need to travel 4,120 miles |
| 3. Would this be considered a local food based on the reading (Local foods are ones that are sourced from within 100 miles)? | No, This product isn’t Local |
| 4. If the answer to number 3 was no, is there an alternative that you could use as a substitute that is local? | There is an alternate way to get local orange juice and it would be getting the product from Arcadia Farms, which is in Arden, North Carolina close to me, Instead of my local Walmart |
| 5. List a minimum of four energy inputs that humans must provide to grow, package/prepare, and transport your food item from where it was produced to the store. | Sunlight – To grow the oranges to make into orange juice.  Human Labor – Used to package and transport the product to the store.  Fuel – To transport the product whether if it’s by car or boat or plane.  Machines – Used the oranges to make orange juice |

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| **Identity of food item 1: Planter Cashews**  <https://www.walmart.com/ip/Planters-Deluxe-Whole-Cashews-18-25-oz-Canister/17247685> | |
| 1. Where was the food item produced? | Suffolk, Virginia |
| 2. Approximately how far would the food item have to travel to get to your city/town? | It will have to travel 320 miles to get to my city |
| 3. Would this be considered a local food based on the reading (Local foods are ones that are sourced from within 100 miles)? | No, This product isn’t local. |
| 4. If the answer to number 3 was no, is there an alternative that you could use as a substitute that is local? | There is a farm called Coddle Creek Farms that produces the Cashews |
| 5. List a minimum of four energy inputs that humans must provide to grow, package/prepare, and transport your food item from where it was produced to the store. | Sunshine – To grow the Cashews.  Machine – To package the Cashews.  Fuel – to transport the Cashews. |

With our purchases not being local it can affect our environment by causing more toxic chemicals in the air, and it also increases global warming. If we as a whole started buying locally more it will reduce those things. Buying local products can cut down on the number of resources we use like water and energy. We don’t think of all of the steps it takes to acquire non-local products, and the carbon footprint we leave producing them. We can help the economy more by supporting our local farmers and buying local goods.

An advantage of buying local goods instead of buying goods that are shipped from other area is that the goods would be fresher. Buying local goods will come from local farmers and producers, which will provide the good to be fresher than when you get it from a grocery store. There are even some local farmers that will let you pick the product straight from the source, and buying fresher good can be more beneficial to your health. Another advantage of buying local goods is that it will help the economy. Doing that will create more jobs, and it will connect more people in the community together.

A disadvantage of buying from local goods is that there is little variety to some things. Chain grocery stores for example Walmart or Publix, have lots of varieties of products and goods to choose from than buying from a local producer. It my also take more effort to find the type of item you are looking for locally and effort to get too it instead of just going for a quick drive to a chain grocery store that haves what you need and or looking for. Another disadvantage is that buying a product from local producer can be more expensive than a regular store. That is another reason people would rather go to a chain store, to spend less money, and to get deals. The production cost for the local business is higher that would be the reason the cost for the product is higher, in order for the local producer to make a profit.

References

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