

Weekly Concept Being Resourceful

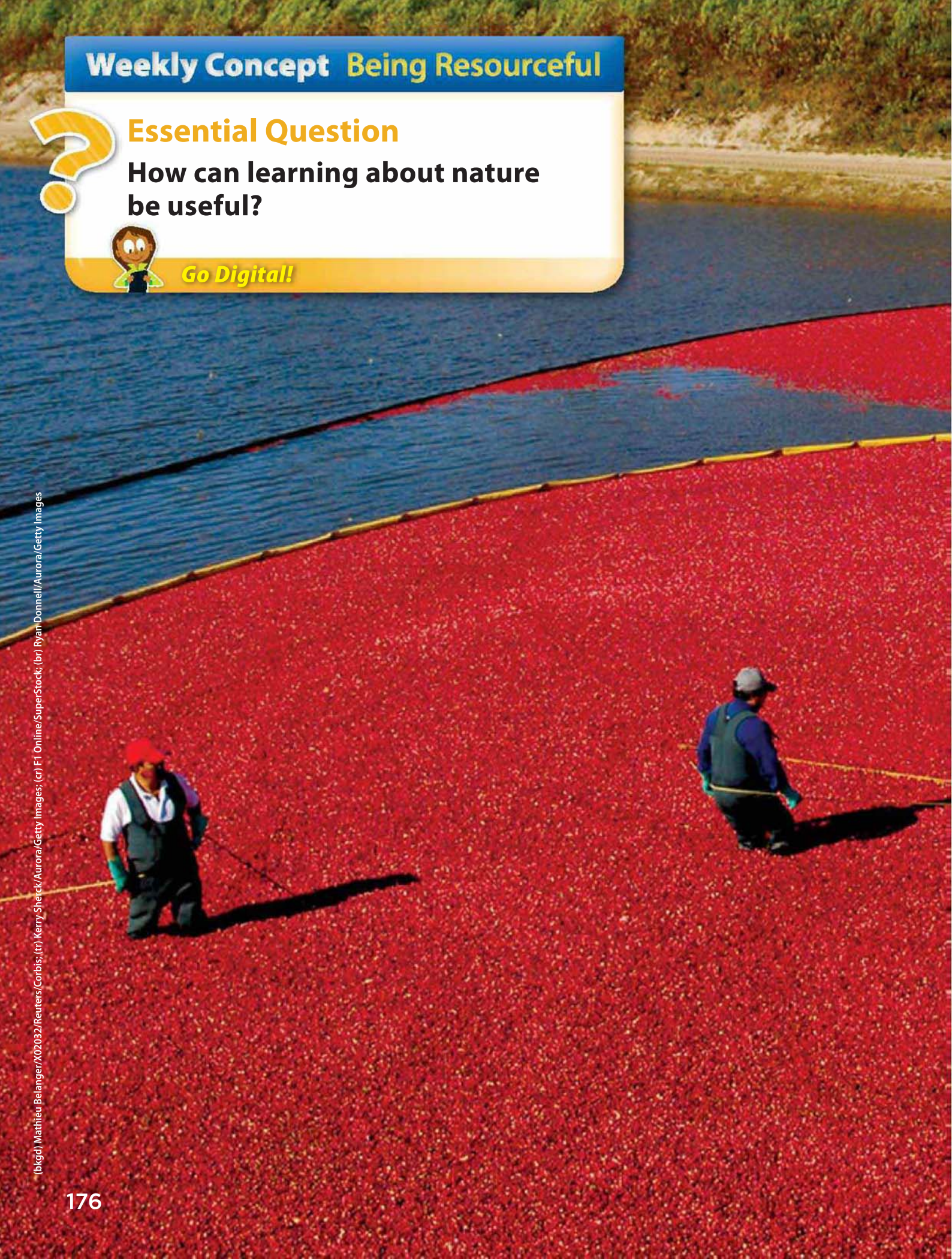


Essential Question

How can learning about nature be useful?



Go Digital!



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A Fruitful Experience

Human beings depend on nature. Over many years, we have had to figure out what is safe for us to eat, and how to grow the foods we need.

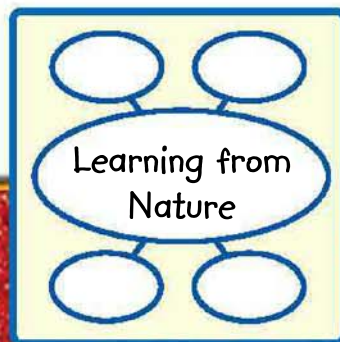
- ▶ Cranberries, pictured here, grow wild on shrubs and vines, but resourceful people have learned to cultivate them.
- ▶ These men are standing in a cranberry bog. Flooding the cranberry beds each autumn makes the fruit easier to harvest.



Talk About It

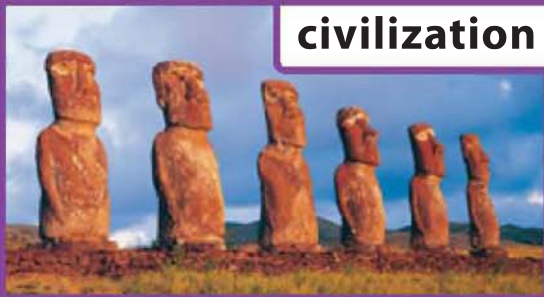


Write words you might use to describe how learning about nature is useful. Then talk about a time when learning about nature helped you.



Vocabulary

Use the picture and the sentences to talk with a partner about each word.



civilization

I am excited to look at the unique artifacts that an ancient **civilization** left behind.

What past civilization interests you most?



complex

The **complex** jigsaw puzzle was a challenge to finish.

What is an antonym for complex?



cultivate

It takes time and work to **cultivate** a beautiful garden.

How do you cultivate a friendship?



devise

My mom helped our family **devise** a plan for eating healthfully.

What healthful plan would you like to devise?



fashioned

I watched as the potter **fashioned** a vase out of clay.

What other items can be fashioned from clay?



resourceful

Birds are **resourceful** when finding materials to build nests.

What qualities does a resourceful person have?



shortage

The river was drying up from a **shortage** of rainwater.

Why is a shortage of water dangerous?



tormentors

Flies and mosquitoes can be **tormentors** to people in summer.

How can cats be tormentors to birds?

Your Turn

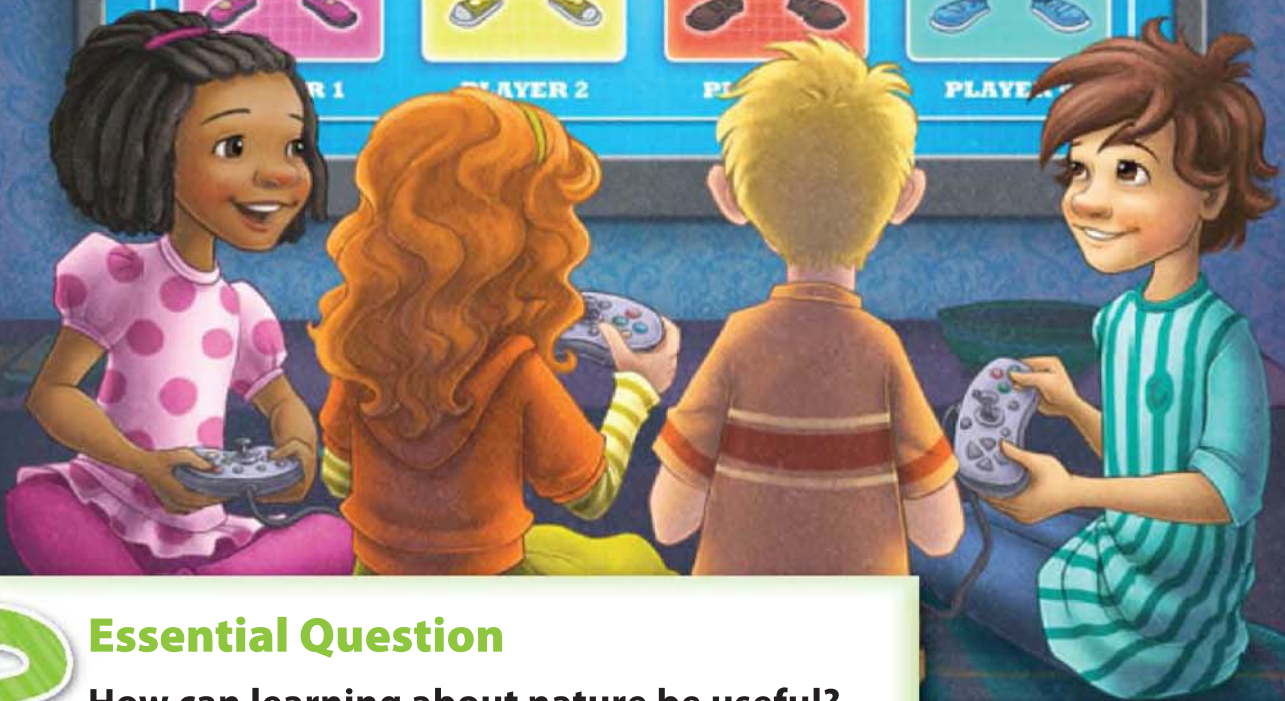
COLLABORATE



Pick three words. Write three questions for your partner to answer.

Go Digital! Use the online visual glossary

Survivaland



Essential Question

How can learning about nature be useful?

Read how four friends use their knowledge of nature to survive.

“I’m going to win *Survivaland*!” Raul declared as he started the computer game. His immobile character suddenly sprang into action on screen. He raced across the desert island pursued by a sandstorm.

“Not today,” Latrice warned while moving her character on the screen. “I’ll be the last player standing on the island!”

Juanita stomped her feet. “No way,” she insisted, “I always **devise** a winning game plan.”

Jackson frowned. “*Survivaland* is too **complex**,” he complained. “You have to know all about nature to win, but in real life, knowing about nature is just not that important.”

“You are so wrong!” Juanita cried.

A loud *crackle* sounded, and the entire room went dark. When the lights returned seconds later, the four players were very confused. Instead of controlling their characters on the computer screen, they were on the island themselves!

“I can’t believe it—we’re inside the game!” Raul exclaimed. “And this sandstorm is blinding me! What should we do?” Suddenly, a large sign in the sky flashed a message: RUN WEST TO ESCAPE THE STORM.

“Which way is west?” Jackson called.

“I know,” Latrice exclaimed, pointing. “The sun is rising over there, and since the sun ascends in the east and sets in the west, west must be in the opposite direction.”



The four players ran until the sandstorm was safely behind them. “Whew, that was close!” Raul gasped with a **shortage** of breath.

Suddenly Juanita shouted, “No time to relax—there’s new trouble overhead!” The group looked up and saw a **gigantic** butterfly hovering above them. Juanita feared the monster insect might fly down and land on her head.

Just then, Raul spotted onions growing nearby. He quickly pulled one up and smashed it with a stick. He pulled it apart, **fashioned** four onion pieces, and said, “Rub this all over yourselves. NOW!”

The giant butterfly floated down and rested its feet on Juanita, just as she had feared. She shrieked in fright, and the gigantic insect flew away. “I think my screaming scared it off,” Juanita sighed.

“No, actually, the onion did,” Raul explained. “Because butterflies taste with their feet, I knew that the onion’s bitterness would drive the insect away.”

Jackson looked perplexed. “Huh? Butterflies taste with their feet?” he exclaimed, confused.

“Yes,” Raul replied, “don’t you remember learning that last year in science class?”

“I guess I was daydreaming that day,” Jackson admitted, adding, “Raul, you’re a **resourceful** friend!”

Then, without warning, an enormous crow flew down and announced, “I’m hungry!” When the huge bird walked close to Jackson, Juanita tore off the silver bracelet and ring she was wearing and threw them as far as she could. The crow raced after the jewelry, and the friends ran the other way.



Even after the bird was out of sight, they kept running, and Jackson called to Juanita, “Why did you throw away your jewelry?”

Juanita explained, “I read in a nature book that crows are attracted to shiny objects, so I knew the giant bird would go after the jewelry instead of me!”

“You see?” Raul said, looking at Jackson. “Knowing about nature has saved us again from our **tormentors**.”

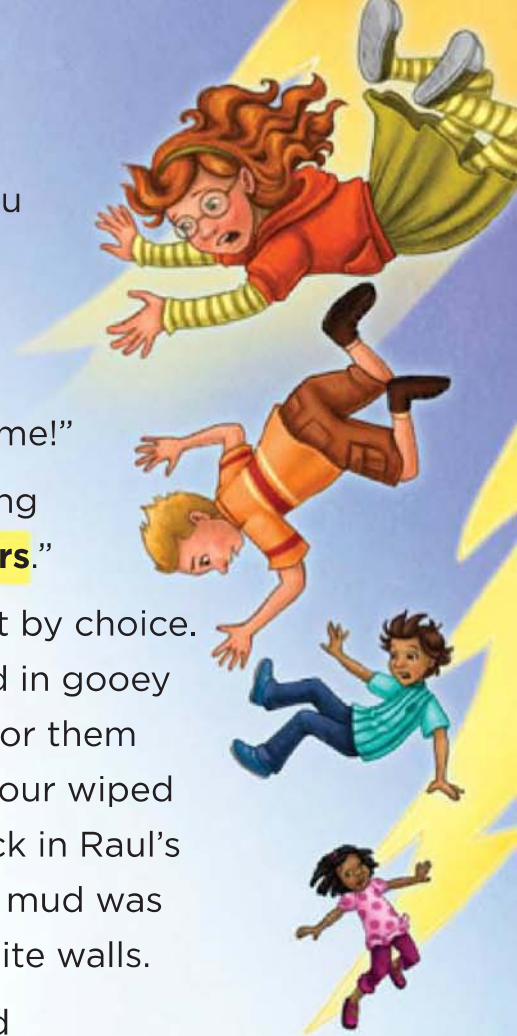
Finally, the four friends stopped running—but not by choice. They accidentally tripped over a tree log and landed in gooey mud that covered their faces, making it impossible for them to see. They heard another loud crackle. When the four wiped the mud away and opened their eyes, they were back in Raul’s game room, in front of the computer screen! All the mud was gone, and the electric blue sky had become four white walls.

“We’re off the island!” Latrice cried. “We survived *Survivaland*, and all of us returned to a normal **civilization**!”

“So who won the game?” Raul wondered.

Jackson declared, “I think we all did—but I feel like the biggest winner, because I’ve managed to **cultivate** a new appreciation for nature.”

“Agreed!” the friends cried, as they wondered what game they might like to play next.



Make Connections

Talk about how the four friends used their knowledge of nature to get out of dangerous situations. **ESSENTIAL QUESTION**

How might you use information about nature to stay safe and healthy? **TEXT TO SELF**