

INSTANT UNIT STUDIES

Simply add informative books and curious kids to stir up some fun and learning!

Instructions:

1. Gather the necessary books and special supplies, as listed on the unit sheet. Check your library or favorite bookstore for the books listed (Kids Can Press books are listed in bold print).
2. Assemble your troops and inform them that they are in for a good time — as long as they follow these three simple rules:
Listen closely.
Ask questions.
Participate with both hands.
3. Begin with Day One. Read the assigned pages. Answer any questions the kids have or ask a few questions of them. Do the suggested activity. If students are in the mood for more, try any of the other activities found in the books.
4. You may have to adjust the projects to suit your students' needs. The Instant Unit Study is meant as a guide. Feel free to do more or less than suggested.
5. Don't forget the camera! If your kids are creating the Eiffel Tower, dressing up for the King's Army or preparing bannock, be sure you don't miss a single Kodak moment. You'll want to remember how easily they can smile and learn at the same time!



AMERICA AT WORK UNIT

(Grades 1–3)

Resource-based industries are an integral part of the U.S. economy and even the very young can learn to appreciate the way our country uses its resources. Spend one week introducing the children to each of the following four industries. Along the way have fun cooking fish, planting trees or growing pineapples!

Books for the Unit

Forestry (Drake/Love)

Fishing (Drake/Love)

Farming (Drake/Love)

Mining (Drake/Love)

The Biggest Fish in the Lake

(M. Carney)

The Dust Bowl (D. Booth)

A Seed Grows (P. Hickman)

Grow It Again! (E. MacLeod)

Special Supplies for Unit

pine cones
 a tree seedling
 Bristol board for poster
 ingredients for fish cakes
 ingredients for beefy meal
 a map of the United States
 salad spinner



Week 1

Week 2

Week 3

Week 4

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
M	Forestry p. 2–7 Make a list of the types of trees in your backyard or neighborhood.	Fishing p. 2–7 Write a favorite fishing story.	Farming p. 16–21 Read A Seed Grows .	Mining p. 2–5 Look around your home and find ten things made with steel.
T	Forestry p. 8–11 Look at pine cones to find the seeds.	Fishing p. 8–15 Visit a fish market and discover the different types of fish to eat.	Farming p. 10–15 Choose a project from Grow It Again!	Mining p. 6–13 Review new words: shaft, ore, skip, gangue, concentrating mill, steel mill, coke, slag, ingots.
W	Forestry p. 12–19 List ten animals that live in trees. List ten animals that find their food on or around trees.	Fishing p. 16–21 Make a poster showing the life cycle of a salmon.	Read The Dust Bowl . Talk about life as a farmer. Or better yet, talk to a farmer!	Mining p. 14–21 Get out a salad spinner to show centrifugal force in action.
T	Forestry p. 20–25 Look around your home for things that are wood products. What part of the tree was used?	Fishing p. 22–29 Discuss trawl net, groundliners, seine nets and gillnets.	Farming p. 16–21 Plan a beefy meal together. Discuss where each ingredient is from.	Mining p. 22–25 Discuss how your home is heated, what kind of fuel you burn and why.
F	Forestry p. 26–30 Plant a tree!	Read The Biggest Fish in the Lake . Make fish cakes together.	Farming p. 24–29 On a map of the U.S., locate the areas mentioned on page 30. Which one are you closest to?	Mining p. 26–30 Have a family meeting to discuss ways to put the four Rs in place.