Foods on the Move
A self-guiding brochure for elementary-school groups

Discover how transportation has influenced the way we get what we eat!

Peterbilt Truck
Starting in the 1950s, interstate highways were built to connect states, cities, and towns across America. In the 1980s, tractor trailers like this one drove a long way on interstates to deliver goods. Refrigerated trucks could deliver fresh food quickly from farms or warehouses to stores.

13. Pretend you own a big farm near Washington, D.C. Would you use a truck like this or a train to get your food to stores? Think about how much each vehicle can hold and how the vehicle will deliver your food directly to the stores you want to reach.

14. When the driver gets sleepy, he can pull into a rest stop and take a nap in the sleeping compartment. Find the door to the sleeping compartment; it’s on the passenger side, over a short ladder.

Containers
A container is a big steel box that carries goods from one side of the world to the other. What travels in containers? Just about everything around you: books, clothes, toys, computers, and some foods.

15. How do containers travel?
   a. on boats
   b. on trucks
   c. on trains
   d. on all three, being lifted from one to the other

Find the answer in the exhibition (and at the bottom of this page).

State Farm Companies Foundation
is proud to make possible the educational materials for America on the Move.

Answer: 15–d

Jupiter Locomotive
On May 13, 1876, a newspaper reporter wrote in the Santa Cruz (California) Sentinel: "At last our enterprising young city is free from the rule of the sleepy stage coach."

1. Look at the Jupiter locomotive. If you were a reporter from this local paper, how would you describe the Jupiter to your readers?

2. If you were a California farmer at this time, would you choose the new train or the wagon to deliver your strawberries and apples to faraway cities? Would you choose the same vehicle to move your fruit to a nearby town?

Electric Streetcar
In the late 1880s, cities grew larger and needed more food delivered. Many Americans moved from farms to work in factories and offices. In Washington, D.C., people traveled to Center Market to buy food.

3. Find four different forms of transportation at Center Market.

4. Food had to be transported into cities to feed the workers. Find the foods for sale. How would bananas be delivered to the market? How about milk?
Winton
The Winton was the first car driven across the country, from California to New York City. It had a body made of wood and an engine in the middle of the car.

5. Find three other things about the Winton that make it different from today’s cars.

6. What similarities does this car have to the horse and carriage you saw in Center Market? List two.

7. There were few roadside restaurants along the way. How would Bud, H. Nelson Jackson, and Sewall Crocker find food during their journey? Hint: They packed a fishing rod and rifle in the car.

School Bus
School buses were first used in small towns during the 1930s, to bring students to new, centralized large schools. Before that, many children went to a school nearby that had only one teacher for all age groups. They also ate their lunches at home.

10. How does this school bus from 1939 look different from today’s buses?

11. Find the students’ lunch boxes. How are they different from yours?

GMC Pickup Truck
In the 1950s, many Americans were moving from cities to new suburbs. Grocery stores in the suburbs depended on pickup trucks and larger trucks to deliver goods.

Most customers in the new suburbs drove cars to new shopping areas to purchase food.

12. What is this truck carrying? Where might it be going?
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1401 Locomotive
Many trains came to Salisbury, North Carolina, in the 1920s. Some trains arrived with cargo and stopped at the freight station. Others, like the Southern Railway’s 1401 locomotive (the 1401 ran from Washington, D.C., to New Orleans, Louisiana), carried people and stopped at the passenger station.

8. Enter Salisbury station and learn about different train cars. People rode trains so much that railroad companies built special cars that served food. What were these cars called? Look at the model train to see inside one of these cars.

9. Find the “driving” wheels on the 1401 locomotive. Hint: They’re the biggest, and have driving rods that move them. They can turn 5½ times each second. That’s very fast! Driving wheels could pull up to 14 passenger cars.

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Visit Going Global. Catch the sushi story and see how food gets moved around today.

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