

Class Starters & Enders

Making the Most of Instructional Time Five Minute Lessons

Class Starters and Enders help utilize the last minutes of class when a lesson ends but there is not enough time to start another, or for an interest approach at the beginning of class. Mini-lessons correlate to GPS in the programs areas below.

The Hatch Act - 1887

Program Areas: Agriculture

Instructions: Read the narrative and make notes of important points, answer questions, and be ready to discuss this topic.

History:

The Morrill Act was passed in 1862 providing the development of Land-Grant Universities. These institutions of higher learning needed farms to conduct research to improve the lives of the rural farmers. The Hatch Act of 1887 gave federal land grants to states in order for them to develop agricultural experiment stations. The purpose of the agricultural experiment stations is to provide test farms to help solve the problems facing farmers. The sole idea in the beginning of the experiment stations was to make American agricultural producers more productive. The experiment stations were to focus on soil and plant sciences but have since moved into other areas of agriculture.

Proposed by William Henry Hatch a U.S. congressman from Missouri, Hatch funding has resulted in a federal-state research partnership that has largely removed the specter of hunger and the drudgery of subsistence agriculture production.

The Hatch Act, revised in 1955, states that experiment stations should,

"...conduct original and other research, investigations and experiments bearing directly on and contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a permanent and effective agricultural industry. . . "



William Henry Hatch

Great strides have been made by the experiment stations to provide research and develop new technologies in many different areas of agriculture including, soil science, livestock production, food and nutrition, entomology, and plant science. The experiment stations provide findings to everyone that has an interest.

The Hatch Act was the second act passed of the three acts passed by Congress to develop the Cooperative Extension Service. The acts are:

- The Morrill Act-1862
- The Hatch Act-1887
- The Smith-Lever Act-1914

Georgia Connection:

There are three regional experiment stations in Georgia that supervise sub-stations and conduct research. They are: in Athens is the College Station that serves as the head-quarters of the other experiment stations; in Griffin is the Georgia Station; and in Tifton is the Coastal Plains Station. Each of the three experiment stations conducts research on varying issues including soil, plant, and livestock issues for the state.

Review

1. What year was the Hatch Act passed by the U.S. Congress?
2. Who is the Hatch Act named for?
3. What is the purpose of the Hatch Act?
4. Why was the Hatch Act important?
5. How many regions of experiment stations are there in Georgia? Name them.