

FOOD ART GAME

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OBJECTIVE // To have participants conceptualize their understanding of the issue of food sovereignty through art, which can help raise awareness of the issues in the larger community.

TIME // 60-120 minutes

GROUP SIZE // Small to large

MATERIALS //

- o Enough paper or canvas for each participant.
- o Participants may also be organized into small teams to create a work of art as a group.
- o Art supplies (paint, brushes, crayons, pencil crayons, markers, etc.)

PREPARATION //

- Arrange in advance a place where the art can be displayed to the community.
- Have all materials ready to be distributed after the initial group discussion.
- Have participants sit in a circle to generate discussion.
- This display can be used to raise awareness in the community – consider announcing the art display in the local media to invite the community to view the display and get involved in the discussion.

ACTIVITY GUIDE //

STEP 1 // (10 minutes)

Lead group discussion about food sovereignty. (The information below comes from the Declaration of Nyéléni, produced during the International Forum on Food Sovereignty, 2007. It is available at nyelini.org).

- What does food sovereignty mean?
 - o Food Sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.
 - o Food Sovereignty differs from food security: Food security is the assurance that you will have enough food to meet your basic caloric needs – it does not address the right to choose the foods or how it is produced.
 - o Consider the elements of the definition food sovereignty:
 - Right to healthy food
 - Right to culturally appropriate food
 - Ecologically sound
 - Sustainable agricultural methods (biodiversity, heritage or heriloon seeds, composting, crop rotation
 - Right to define how our food is produced
 - o Discuss the additional principles from the International Forum on Food Sovereignty:
 - Recognition of women’s roles and rights
 - Right to a living wage
 - Recognition of the value of traditional knowledge, food, language and culture

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- Real reform of agriculture systems to recover indigenous land, honour pastoral tradition and migration routes,
 - Peaceful and fair sharing of land
 - Defense of peoples' power to decide about their material, natural and spiritual heritage
 - Defense of small-scale farmers against transnational corporations
- **Who should act to ensure food sovereignty?**
- o All of us! We are called to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world, and this is a topic that affects all of us, together.

STEP 2 // (30-40 minutes)

Watch one of the films below, and discuss it with the group.

- **A New Leaf:** This 30-minute documentary about the food crisis in the Sahel and DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE's response delves into the complex issues that led to the crisis and how our solidarity can make a difference.
- **On the Road to Food Sovereignty:** This 18-minute documentary, filmed two years after the 2010 earthquake, explains how food sovereignty is a development model that improves living conditions while providing an opportunity for Haiti to become self-sufficient.

STEP 3// (40-60 minutes)

Distribute art materials amongst the participants. Ask them to create a picture of 'What Food Sovereignty Means To Me', based on the discussion in Step 1. They may choose a theme (Hunger, Plenty, Sowing, Harvest, etc), as an aspect of the definition of Food Sovereignty (as above), or a faith principle (justice, service, family) on which to focus.

Encourage students to express in their artwork their feelings about food, hunger, and human rights. Participants can create a picture of their own experiences or those of others (for example, in the Global South). There are no limits!

Have students write up a few phrases explaining their piece – or even simply the themes or words on which they focused.

STEP 4// (10-15 mins)

Display all art pieces in a prominent place where all participants can see everyone else's picture. Lead a follow-up discussion, and ask participants to analyze others' interpretations of the issue of food sovereignty.

Possible post-viewing questions:

- How do the pieces (other than your own) speak to you about food sovereignty, hunger, and human rights? What about the piece strikes you?

STEP 5// (Optional)

Take a picture of all of the group's pieces and send them to youth@devp.org! We would love to see everyone's art, and we may even display the pictures on our website for others to appreciate.