**May 21, 2024**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at [kdaugherty@ilfb.org](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

**THIS IS THE LAST IAITC FARMWEEK NON-FICTION BELLRINGER OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!  
  
SEE YOU IN AUGUST**

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

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Or use the article at: <https://iaitc.co/chocolatiers>

Use the article titled: Inflations challenges chocolatiers

1. What two main issues are impacting central Illinois Chocolatiers?
2. What percentage of the world’s cocoa is produced in the impacted area?
3. Due to recent issues with cocoa, what has happened to the price of chocolate?
4. Explain how ransom is impacting chocolate prices.
5. While this is impacting Amy Wertheim of RGW Candy Company, why is the price increase not directly impacting Zach Meyer of Minonk Chocolate Company?
6. While not a U.S. ag product, how might this increase impact U.S. ag companies and ag prices?
7. How will the Chocolate price increase impact you and your family this summer? Explain your answer.

Answers:

1. Drought in the Ivory Coast and Ghana region and pirates.
2. 70%
3. The price of chocolate has risen by over 300% in the last 3 months.
4. Pirates are attacking ships traveling from Africa and holding cargo for hostage. Owners of the ships are paying large ransoms to get the cargo (including chocolate) back, but the ransom is adding to the increased price.
5. The Minonk Chocolate Company has a summer shutdown, and won’t reopen until after Labor Day.
6. Answers will vary. However, given a price increase in raw materials that will probably be passed on to consumers, it might impact the purchasing habits of consumers. Soybean Oil is used it the production of chocolate, fewer people eating chocolate, less demand for soybean oil. Chocolate chip prices might rise, and people may not make as many chocolate chip cookies, meaning lower demand for wheat, corn oil, etc. However, some people might bake peanut butter cookies or sugar cookies. But see if you can see a price difference in your local ice cream store or grocery store.
7. Answers will vary.