Engage: What are we making in the Southeast?

Markets are all about producers and consumers. Your students may not know it, but we produce many things in the southeastern United States. Get your supply and demand lesson started with an *Economy Matters* digital quiz on what the Southeast produces. Ask your students to use their own devices to take the quiz or display the quiz web page with your projector. There is a data link for your state on the page. Click it to see which countries are your state’s biggest consumers. Ask students the following questions:

1. Which of the products was the top export for your state in 2014? Were you surprised? Why or why not?
2. Which countries were the top consumers of your state’s top export good in 2015 (check link)? Why do you think these countries topped the list?
Teach: Protection for peanuts—supply, demand, and support policies

Although shelled peanuts were not Georgia’s biggest export, according to the quiz, Georgia leads the United States in the production of peanuts. Peanuts are a great product to discuss in relation to supply and demand. From 1941 to 2014, peanuts were included in U.S. farm bills as an agricultural commodity. This lesson on the economics of the peanut industry—using interactive activities, primary source analysis, and graphing—is a great way to link your classroom study of supply and demand to real-world policies.

Practice: Supply and demand infographic and activity

Using the supply and demand infographic, tell students they will now have a chance to practice what they learned using the supply and demand infographic activity. This activity includes links to current events articles students will use to decide how different markets have been affected in the real world. An answer key is provided on the same web page as well as an order form to request a free print copy of the infographic.

Assess: Shifting curves—demand and supply shifts in the gasoline market

The price of gasoline per gallon is relevant to most students. They have likely noticed how the price of gas fluctuates and have wondered what causes this to happen. Use this lesson to assess your students’ understanding of market graphs and determinants of supply and demand.