

# *Peanuts*

## **STUDENT ACTIVITY**

**Instructions:** After watching the Farming Feeds Alabama video about Peanuts, answer the following questions. Listen to and watch the video carefully as questions can be answered based on what the farmers say or the images shown.

1. What percentage (approximately) of U.S. peanuts is grown within a 100-miles radius of Dothan, Alabama?
2. What time of year is peanut harvest? What two processes are part of peanut harvest?
3. How did the boll weevil impact the peanut industry?
4. How many people are employed in the peanut industry in Alabama? What is the economic impact to the state?
5. List products that include peanuts as an ingredient.
6. Name some of the health benefits of peanuts.
7. What's the difference in acreage a farmer tends now compared to 50 years ago? What technology has made this increase possible?
8. What is the No. 1 cause of yield losses for peanut farmers?
9. How does GPS help farmers and the environment?
10. What does the peanut plant make on its own, and why does that help farmers?

# *Peanuts*

## **TEACHER KEY**

Access the Peanuts video at [www.FarmingFeedsAlabama.com](http://www.FarmingFeedsAlabama.com) or through the jump drive provided in your Farming Feeds Alabama Teacher Resource Guide.

Run time: 4:43

1. What percentage (approximately) of U.S. peanuts is grown within a 100-miles radius of Dothan, Alabama?
  - Over 50%
2. What time of year is peanut harvest? What two processes are part of peanut harvest?
  - a. Fall
  - b. Digging and picking
3. How did the boll weevil impact the peanut industry?
  - Boll weevils devastated cotton crops in Alabama, so farmers turned to peanuts as a different crop to grow.
4. How many people are employed in the peanut industry in Alabama? What is the economic impact to the state?
  - a. 2,000
  - b. Over \$200 million
5. List products that include peanuts as an ingredient.
  - Peanut butter, chicken house flooring, peanut oil for cooking, peanut oil for manufacturing
6. Name some of the health benefits of peanuts.
  - Protein, helps raise good cholesterol and lower bad cholesterol
7. What's the difference in acreage a farmer tends now compared to 50 years ago? What technology has made this increase possible?
  - a. Thousands of acres now, but it was only 40-50 acres per farmer 50 years ago
  - b. GPS
8. What is the No. 1 cause of yield losses for peanut farmers?
  - Plowing up peanuts and cutting them off because the tractor gets off the row
9. How does GPS help farmers and the environment?
  - Prevents overlapping, saves seed costs, saves fungicide and herbicide
10. What does the peanut plant make on its own and why does that help?
  - a. Nitrogen
  - b. Vines left on the ground return nitrogen to the soil. This means farmers don't have to apply as much (or any) commercial nitrogen