



Fuel Your Appetite With Local Food Not Fossil Fuel

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Problem:

Internationally traded food increases fossil fuel use; this causes higher concentrations of harmful gaseous emissions.

Solution:

Local Farms → Schools → Cafeterias

Encourage private schools in Massachusetts to integrate more locally grown food into their cafeterias.

Who's involved?

- Farmers
- Teachers
- Students
- School Administrators



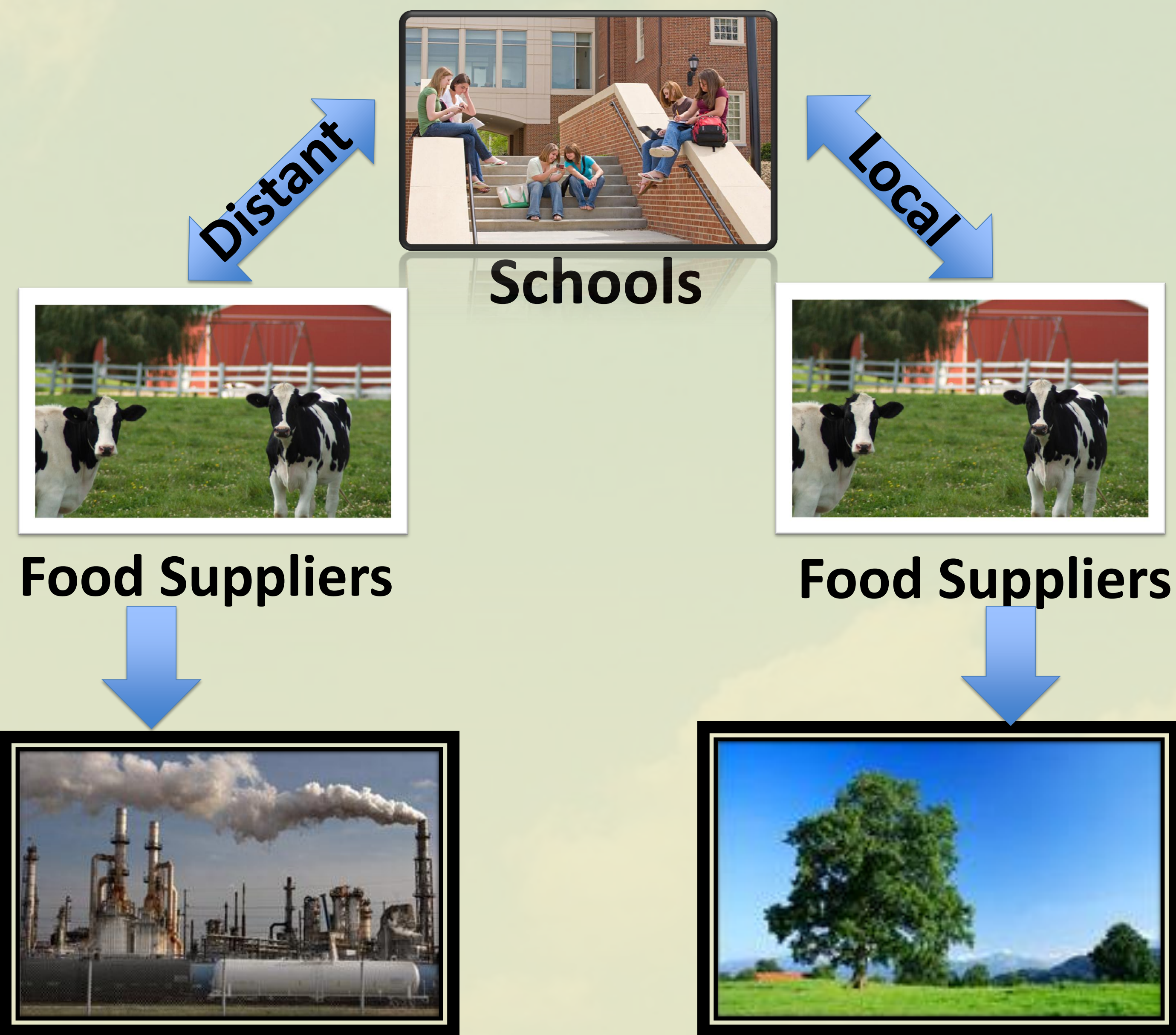
Where?

Worcester, Massachusetts

Procedures:

- Step 1** → Contact private schools and local farms in Worcester, MA
- Step 2** → Convince private schools to purchase local food.
- Step 3** → Use food miles to calculate CO₂ emissions

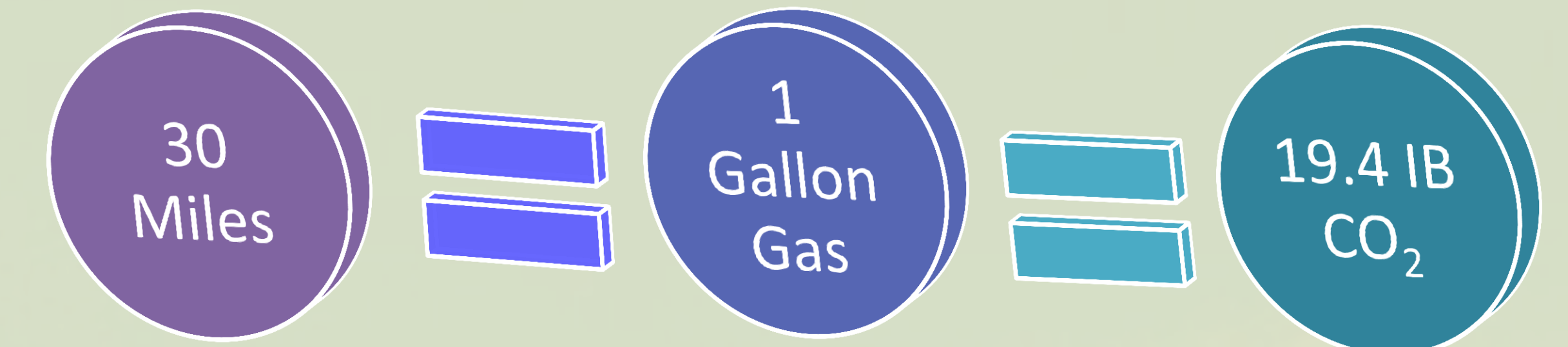
In Perspective:



Model Building Statistics :

- 30 schools from grades K-12 in Worcester.
- 10 farms in Worcester and more than 70 local farms around Worcester.
- Food travels 1,500 miles on average from the farm to the consumer in the U.S.
- Locally grown food travels 29 miles on average from the farm to the consumers in Worcester.

Calculations:



CO₂ emission under U.S average trade:

1500 miles ÷ 30 miles/gallon = 50 gallons gas

50 gallons × 19.4 lb CO₂ = **970 lb. CO₂**

CO₂ emission under Worcester local trade :

29 miles ÷ 30 miles/gallon = 0.97 gallons gas

0.97 gallons × 19.4 lb CO₂ = **18.77 lb. CO₂**

Benefits:

- Stimulates local economy
- Supports endangered family farms
- Food suppliers are more accessible
- Preserves Genetic Diversity
- Cuts down fuel emissions

Cost:

- Close to market price
- Depends on weather conditions and growing seasons



References:

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