

NEWS BREAK

Article: **Nestlé invests in fake chicken with bamboo bones**

Section: **BUSINESS, C6**

Sunday's News Break selects an article from **Sunday, November 21, 2021** of The Seattle Times print replica for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions.

You are encouraged to modify this lesson to fit the needs of your students. For example, some teachers might use this as a take-home assignment and others might read and answer the questions in a small group or larger, class discussion.

****Please be sure to preview all NIE content before using it in your classroom to ensure it is appropriate for your students.***

Standards:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1

- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.2

- Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

Objectives:

Students will discuss plant-based food products, have they tried any and whether they eat it regularly. Do they think it's important for alternative meat to be more like real meat, like adding skin and bone textures? Do students believe it's important for people to add plant-based meats into their diet? Why has alternative meat become more popular recently? They will also talk about why alternative-protein markets have had a recent slowdown and think about things that might've contributed to lower sales?

Vocabulary Building:

Read this sentence, what do you think the highlighted words mean using *context clues*? A **context clue** is a word or words that are hints and refers to the sources of information outside of words that readers may use to predict the identities and meanings of unknown words.

“The skin is made out of a protein-**lipid** film that also helps lock in moisture, and the bones are fashioned out of bamboo stalks.”

***Lipid* Guess:**

***Lipid* Definition:**

Comprehension Questions:

1. Nestlé invested in a vegan startup that is trying to mimic chicken in the most realistic way possible, including fake _____ and _____, as the world’s largest food company presses ahead with expansion in plant-based meat substitutes.
2. Nestlé led a funding round of about \$4 million in Sundial Foods, said Jessica Schwabach, CEO of the Albany, California-based company. The proceeds will help fund initial production as the company plans to introduce what?
3. The Swiss food giant has been investing heavily in alternative proteins as an increasing number of consumers forgo animal products amid what two main concerns?
4. After a late start to the vegan market, CEO Mark Schneider now aims to have a plant-based substitute for what?
5. Nestlé is testing the waters for new technologies, including _____ meat with Israeli cell-based startup Future Meat Technologies.
6. Sundial was created in 2019 after co-founders Schwabach, who is vegan, and Siwen Deng met at the Alternative Meats Program at the University of California, Berkeley, where they explored issues like what?
7. People liked the realistic appearance and the high protein content — but their favorite aspect was what part?
8. Sundial’s products, which are _____-based, use eight ingredients. Its chicken wing substitutes count 27 grams of protein per 100 grams, roughly the same as the original product.
9. The skin is made out of a protein-lipid film that also helps lock in moisture, and the bones are fashioned out of what?

Discussion Questions (small/large groups), Journal Prompts or Essay Questions:

- ***What surprised (or stood out to) you in the article?***
- ***At first I thought _____, but now I think _____?***
- ***What things did you already know from prior experience?***
- ***What is your experience with plant-based products? What plant-based meat substitutes have you tried? Do you like it?***
- ***Do you think it's important for alternative meat to be more like real meat, like adding skin and bone textures to their products? Why or why not?***
- ***Do you think it's important for people to add plant-based meats into their diet? Why or why not?***

The alternative-protein market has shown some signs of a slowdown. Beyond Meat shares dropped 13% on Nov. 11 after the maker of faux burger patties forecast sales below analysts' forecasts.

- **Why do you think alternative-protein markets have had a recent slowdown? What things might've contributed to lower sales?**

News Break is posted to the Web on Monday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the print replica for your class, please [register online](#) or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655.
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