

Lesson Title: Classifying Cooperatives by Structure (Chapter 6)

Standards: Social Studies 9-12.3.1

Unit Outcomes Addressed by this Lesson

Students will understand how cooperatives are classified.

Lesson Objectives

(what the students will know and do by the end of this lesson)

Students will:

- a. List three ways to categorize a cooperative.
- b. Describe each category by its membership.
- c. List three functions that may be performed by cooperatives.
- d. Determine classifications by size of a regional cooperative business found in your local community or surrounding area.

Lesson Level Assessment (how the objectives will be measured)

- a-c. Content readings
- e. Individual cooperative presenters from student presentations or found in your local community or surrounding area

Activities and Procedures (what the teacher and students will do during the lesson)

a-c. Content Reading Guide

The students will first gather information about the structures of cooperatives by using Chapter 6 in Co-ops 101 to fill in the content reading guide (attached below). The guide can be completed collaboratively with partners or individually. The teacher can circulate around the room to provide support and prompt students to do on-the-spot revising since it is important that the students are working with accurate information for the next step in this lesson.

Time frame: 20 minutes

When the Content Reading Guides are complete, the students should continue working on the project they began in Lesson five. They will work online and through other sources such as interviewing the cooperative manager to classify the cooperative they are studying by territory, governance and function. They will continue to work on the presentation, adding the new information they acquired.

Time frame: 20-30 minutes

Materials and Resources

- Copies of Chapter 6 from Co-ops 101 <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/RBS/pub/cir55/c55text.pdf>
- Access to computers
- Copies of the "Content Reading Guide"
- www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/qbcc/private/

Classifying Cooperatives by Structure Content Reading Guide

Directions: Use Chapter 6 in "Co-ops 101" to complete the following items:

Three important ways to classify cooperatives are:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Part One: Geographic Territory Served

Size of the area served is a factor when classifying cooperatives. List the five size classifications with brief definitions:

Classification	Definition

Part Two: Governance System

Cooperatives can also be classified by **membership structure**. Identify the three types of membership structure and the characteristics of each.

Membership Structure	Characteristics

Part Three: Functions Performed

Finally, cooperatives may be classified by **what they do**. They may perform one or more of three **core functions**. Identify and describe each of the three core functions, including examples of cooperatives that perform that core function.

Core Functions	Description and Examples

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