The Latin American Resource Center’s Lending Library has an extensive collection of educational materials for teacher and classroom use such as videos, slides, units, books, games, curriculum units, and maps. They are available for free short term loan to any instructor in the United States.

**CURRICULUM UNITS**

*Coffee Connections*
This unit examines coffee and its relationship to key issues in the international economy. Consists of four lessons on international coffee connections, Californian connections, coffee in Latin America, and the international economy. Guide included. English. 66 pages, 13 slides.

*Plátanos: Learning about Bananas*
A curriculum guide developed by a select group of teachers in 2005 to be used with the film, *Banana Split*, winner of LARC’s Biennial Latin American Environmental Media Festival. This curriculum guide was designed to be used for K-12 although most units are developed for high school. Check out the film *Banana Split* from the LARC Lending Library.

*Roots of Rebellion*
This unit explores the causes of poverty and rebellion in Central America. It shows the life of the peasants and business of the rural oligarchs. It also asks why so few people have so much land and why Central Americans are growing coffee and bananas for export, when so many in the region do not have enough food to feed themselves. 1984. English. 15 minutes, 79 slides.

*Yum! ¡Mmmm! ¡Que Rico!*
A Grade 2-3 curriculum based on the Américas Award winning book, *Yum! ¡Mmmm! ¡Que Rico!*, written by Pat Mora and illustrated by Rafael López (New York: Lee & Low, 2007). This book and curriculum features haiku about food from North, Central, and South America, as well as informative texts about each food’s provenance and cultural significance.

**FILMS**

*Big Spuds, Little Spuds*
This film takes a close look at the potato to examine the effects of climate change and monoculture on one of the world’s staple food crops: potatoes. The film looks at traditional methods of potato farming where Andean families grow their own varieties, practice crop rotation, and utilize a minimum of inputs. This is in sharp contrast to the industrial method of production used in Idaho where just a few high-yielding varieties are grown. 1999. English, 52 minutes.

*Bananas!*
Juan Accidentesâ Dominguez is on his biggest case ever. On behalf of twelve Nicaraguan banana workers he is tackling Dole Food in a ground-breaking legal battle for their use of a banned pesticide that was known by the company to cause sterility. Can he beat the giant, or will the corporation get away with it? In the suspenseful documentary filmmaker Fredrik Gertten sheds new light on the global politics of food. 2009. *English with Spanish subtitles*, 87 min.
**Banana Split**
In a modern supermarket, bananas account for over 12% of sales in the produce section and 1% of total sales despite the fact that the nearest plantation is 5,000 kilometers away. The banana is the cheapest and most perishable fruit on store shelves. Filmed in Canada, the United States, Honduras and France, *Banana Split* explores the North/South Split between consumers and the people whose lives revolve round the "curvaceous fruit from the herbaceous plant". Directed by Ron Harpelle and Kelly Saxberg. 2002.

**Coffee with the Taste of the Moon**
This film looks into the faces of people who are at times consumers and producers of what is known as the most traded commodity in the world after oil: coffee. From the point of view of the narrator who ponders the impact of his morning cup, we begin to see that coffee is an entry point for considering the impact of our consumption choices in the United States on social justice issues and ecological concerns across the Americas and around the world. 2005. English, 57 minutes.

**Coffee: A Sack Full of Power**
Coffee ranks second only to oil as the most important raw material on the world market. It has shaped the economies history, and social structure of a large part of Latin America. The film explains the difference between the Brazilian and Costa Rican system of production, and why the Brazilian system has led to such poverty. 1999. Filmmakers Library. English. 52 minutes.

**El Crucero**
An in-depth picture of a Nicaraguan coffee plantation in September 1984. The film includes interviews with female farm workers, a farm union organizer, and others who work on the farm. It discusses various issues: the role of women, food shortages, war, workers' demands, and poor health conditions. English. 60 minutes.

**Food: A Cross-Cultural Study**
This is a two-part audiovisual program that depicts and describes how food is obtained, prepared, and eaten in different cultures around the globe. Students who view this program will learn what the various food customs and practices have in common, and how human needs are satisfied by them. Educational Design, Inc. 1987. English, 27 minutes.

**Halvan kahvin uhrit (Victims of Cheap Coffee)**
Collapsing prices on the world coffee market have plunged millions of growers in many countries into poverty. The program reports on the victims of cheap coffee and tells about the consequences that collapse of coffee prices has caused in producer countries. Filmed in Nicaragua and Vietnam. 2003. Finnish with English subtitles. 50 minutes.

**Islas Hermanas (Sister Islands)**
Celebrating a unique 13 year relationship between Bainbridge Island, Washington and Ometepe Island in Nicaragua, *Islas Hermanas* travels from the volcanic slopes of Nicaragua, where the Ometepe community cultivates organic coffee beans, to the Pegasus Coffee Company, Bainbridge, where volunteers roast, pack and distribute the fair-trade commodity. 1999. English. 28 minutes.

**Latino Cuisine in New Orleans**
Well-known chefs, like Aaron Sanchez, John Besh, and Phillip Lopez, discuss their thoughts on New Orleans’ multifaceted cuisine, along with their favorite dishes, while food writers share anecdotes and additional commentary. Set to vibrant music, this documentary highlights the many cultural contributions that the Latino community has made to the city of New Orleans. English, 60 minutes.
The Politics of Food
This PBS special focuses on Brazilian economic development (export-led growth) and its ramifications on types of agricultural production and food supply. 1988. English, 30 minutes.

The Story of Chocolate
From the pre-Columbian dawn to the Age of Exploration, and from the scientific laboratory to modern manufacturing, chocolate has fascinated everyone with a taste for enchantment. The Story of Chocolate begins deep in the tropical forest, travels through the sacred rituals of the Aztecs and the intrigue of European royalty, and emerges into our modern popular culture. 2003. English, 15 minutes.

PRINT MATERIALS

Arroz con leche / Rice Pudding
In this delightful book award-winning poet Jorge Argueta gives us his favorite recipe for rice pudding, providing a wonderful opportunity for family fun in the kitchen. Bilingual English/Spanish text with the recipe included! English/Spanish, 29 pages.

Cooking Mexican

Foods of Latin America
General compilation of recipes received by the CRC, most of which were supplied by a commercial food company. Includes color ad photos. English, 35 pages.

Guacamole
It's time to make guacamole! A young chef puts on her apron and begins to sing and dance around the kitchen as she gathers the ingredients for this easy recipe. Jorge Argueta uses his poetic imagination and sense of fun to describe how to make a delicious healthy dish. Cooks young and old will have fun making this wonderful recipe. English/Spanish, 22 pages.

Recipe Pamphlets
Recipes from Spain and Latin America, including several versions of empanadas. English, 21 pages.

Sopa de frijoles / Bean Soup
This delightful recipe in poem form shows us all, young and old, how to make a heartwarming, tummy-filling bean soup. This book is a wonderful family recipe/poem. English/Spanish, 29 pages.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Foods of the Columbian Exchange: K-12 Teacher Workshop
https://sites.google.com/view/foodscolumbianexchange/home

The Columbian Exchange Primary Source Set
https://dp.la/primary-source-sets/sets/the-columbian-exchange
The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) connects people to the riches held within America’s libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions. This primary source set explores positive and negative consequences of this the Columbian Exchange, showing both instances of exchange and resulting instances of cultural, political, ecological, and biological imperialism.