Agriculture Long Ago In Trinidad and Tobago

The first people to live on our islands were the Amerindians. They were the indigenous people of Trinidad and Tobago. In the very early days, they hunted fish and gathered food. However, as the years went by, some of them began to cultivate crops. Their most popular crop was a root crop called cassava. This, they used to make various dishes. Cassava or manioc was used to make a beverage called cassareep.

Our indigenous people also planted corn or maize. This they used to make a variety of dishes. As the years went by, more and more farming took place. The sugar cane was the most popular crop. It was planted by both the Africans and East Indians.

The African slaves and the indentured servants, the East Indians, worked mainly on the sugar estates. The land was first ploughed in order to grow the sugar cane. To plough means to turn over soil. This loosens the soil and makes plants grow better. On large estates, the farmer uses cattle to take ploughs through the fields.

When the canes grew, cutlasses were used to cut these canes. As you may well imagine, agriculture was very hard work in the years gone by. Over the years, however, the hard work paid off. Many of

LIVEWORKSHEETS

these early workers in our agriculture sector did quite well. They were able to build homes and educate their children. Some even took up agriculture as their main means of earning a livelihood. Today, we salute these persons. For they truly led the way in the field of agriculture in our nation.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Book Reference

Porter, F.M. (2016). *Caribbean Rhythm: Integrated Language Arts Literacy and Numeracy Program*. Caribbean Children's Press Limited.

LIVEWORKSHEETS