**Activities*: Golden Delicious: A Cinderella Apple Story***

* **Read the book aloud in class**. Talk about it The goal: Interest students in the idea of children’s books set in local history and in the process of creating fruit trees.
* **Create a play about the discovery of the Golden Delicious**. Introduce the idea of short scenes. What would the scenes in your play be? Write dialogue and stage directions for the scenes.
* **Learn about growing fruit trees:**
	+ **Grafting:** How did the Stark Brothers turn one tree into many trees? What were they doing in that cage around the Clay County tree? Type “grafting” into a search engine.
		- Invite an agent from the Cooperative Extension Service to come give your class a demonstration of grafting.
		- Graft your own plants, with help from your teacher.
	+ **Pollination:** Apple experts believe that the Golden Delicious apple was created when a Grimes Golden Apple tree pollinated a Golden Reinette apple tree. How does pollination happen? What will you type into a search engine to research it? Pollination happens when pollen from one tree ends up in the blossoms of another tree. What role do bees play?
		- Write a story from the point of view of the bee.
* Use West Virginia’s online encyclopedia to find information about the Golden Delicious apple and other West Virginia apples: [e-WV - Apples](https://www.wvencyclopedia.org/entries/238).
	+ Where did the famous Golden Delicious apple first grow? Find the location on a map of West Virginia. What other famous apple grew for the first time in West Virginia? What famous person is said to have planted the seed that grew into that tree?
* **A project around tasting: an “apple tasting” in your classroom**. Taste different kinds of apples. Decide how you might rate them. Make a chart. After everyone has tasted and rated, vote for your favorite.
* **Independent project**: Write your own story about a local event. Research the facts of the time, then create the characters. Make up the characters or use characters from history. Or both!
* **Seeds.** Will seeds from a Golden Delicious apple grow a Golden Delicious tree? Why or why not? What does it mean that apples “don’t come true?
* **People-created apples.** There are more than 7,500 different kinds of apples in the world. Most were created by pollination by bees. Some were actually created by apple experts. Examples are: Fuji, Gala, Jonagold. Research the process of creating a new apple. Describe how it happens. Type “creation of new apple varieties” into a search engine and see what you get!