

The Agricultural Revolution

For the majority of our history, *Homo sapiens* survived as foragers--gathering, hunting or fishing for food that was found in nature. This subsistence strategy was successful for nearly 180,000 years. But about 10,000 years ago, humans began to control how their natural resources reproduced. Instead of food collectors, humans shifted their strategy to food production. This adaptive shift occurred at different times in different places across the globe, but it arose independently in many different areas. Where plants were domesticated, we see the rise of agriculture. In areas of the world that were not fit for agriculture, people were more likely to focus their strategies on domesticating animals and trading their products with the agriculturalists. Controlling food sources gave humans an advantage no other species has ever had. But at what cost? The film below (11:10 min) will illustrate this process:

The Agricultural Revolution: Crash Course World History #1



Your text discusses clearly how the shift to a brand-new diet and lifestyle would affect humans in both positive and negative ways. The following two sections of the module will introduce you to a few specific details about this change.