



All Kinds of Crops

All Kinds of Crops

- **What are some of your favorite foods? Do you know where those foods come from?**

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Not all farmers raise animals. Some farmers grow crops, or produce. Listen carefully to learn more about where some of your favorite foods come from.

All Kinds of Crops



In the last several read alouds, you learned a lot about the different kinds of animals that might live on a farm and the things they need. You've seen that, on my farm, there are cows, chickens, pigs, and sheep.

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I spend a lot of time taking care of the animals, providing them with food and shelter, protecting them, and then getting milk, eggs, wool, or meat.

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I have mentioned before that I plant and harvest crops of wheat and corn on my farm, some of which I feed to my animals. I also raise these crops, as well as others--like cucumbers, beans, and carrots--for my family and other people to eat.

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This picture shows some of the kinds of foods that different farmers grow. Can you name the fruits and vegetables that you see in this picture? I don't grow all of these things on my farm.

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Grocery stores buy fruits and vegetables from many different farmers, so that when you go to the store you have a wide variety of fruits and vegetables from which to choose.

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You will find these fruits and vegetables in the produce section at the grocery store. Produce refers to the parts of the plants that we eat. To produce also means to create or make.

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The nice things about vegetables is that you can eat as much as you want! Nobody is going to tell you not to eat carrots, green beans, cabbage, celery, green peppers or lettuce--and let's not forget broccoli!

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*I love to eat vegetables, and
I hope you do, too.*

*You should also eat at least
two or three fruits every
day. Did you know that
tomatoes are actually
fruits?*

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I like to pick fresh tomatoes and eat them like you eat an apple--mmmm, so good!

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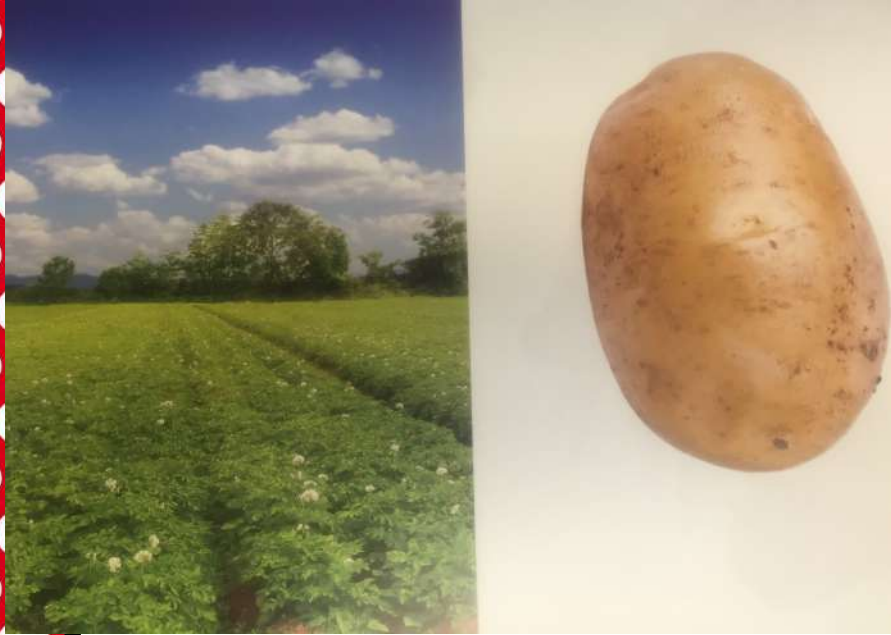
One crop that I grow is field corn. I use most of the field corn that I grow to make feed for the animals on my farm. But I also grow sweet corn and sell some of it at the local market each summer, because many people like to eat corn, too.

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The farmer who lives next to me grows potatoes on her farm. This picture shows a crop of potato plants. But even if you look closely at the picture, you won't see any potatoes. That's because the potatoes are actually part of the roots of the potato plant!

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So where do you think the potatoes are?

I am sure that you remember that roots grow underground, so the potatoes are under the soil!

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All plants have roots. Plants use roots to take in water and nutrients from the soil and to keep them planted firmly in the earth through wind and rain. Not all plants have edible roots, but potato plants sure do! Edible means that it is fit to be eaten.

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Farmers have to dig up the potatoes in order to harvest them.

Can you think of some different ways that you like to eat potatoes? Do you like baked potatoes or mashed potatoes? And did you know that potato chips and French fries start out as potatoes, too?

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Carrots, radishes, and beets are all root vegetables, as well. How do you think farmers harvest these vegetables?

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Video shows
carrot harvest but
then has several
slides of facts that
may or may not
interest the
group...pick and
choose...

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In addition to growing fruits and vegetables, farmers may grow other types of crops. You may remember that I also grow wheat that I use to feed the animals on my farm.

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You might be surprised to learn that people also eat wheat, though we don't eat it in exactly the same form as farm animals do! Once the wheat is harvested, it is then processed and prepared in different ways before people eat it.

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Some farmers also grow other grains like oats and rice that are harvested and processed for people to eat. Grains are plants that have seeds that are used to make foods.

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If you eat cereal for breakfast each morning, you are probably eating wheat, oats, or rice grains! The next time you eat cereal, look at the box that it came in to find out what kind of grains you are eating.

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Many breakfast cereals are made with whole grains, which are the best for you! Sometimes the grain is made into flour. The flour is then used in different recipes to make foods like bread, muffins, cookies, and even spaghetti!

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*I am proud to be one of
the farmers who grow
crops that become food
for you!*

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Comprehension Questions:

Literal

What kinds of crops do farmers grow that are sold for food for people?

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Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

Why do farmers grow crops?

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Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

What is produce?

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Comprehension Questions:

Inferential

What is your favorite kind of produce?

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Comprehension Questions:

Evaluative

How would your life be different if farmers didn't grow crops?

Think. Pair. Share.



I'm going to ask you a question. I will give you a minute to think about the question, and then I will ask you to turn to your neighbor and discuss the question. Finally I will call on several of you to share what you discussed with your partner.

Think. Pair. Share.

Evaluative:



If you were a farmer, would you rather raise animals or grow crops? Why?

Word Work

Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

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*In the read aloud you heard, “You will find these fruits and vegetables in the **produce** section at the grocery store.”*

*Say the word **produce** with me.
Whisper produce to the ceiling.
Whisper produce to the floor.
Clap out the word.*

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Produce *is a crop grown as food for people.*

We chose several different kinds of produce at the grocery store.

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Have you ever chosen **produce** at the grocery store? What is your favorite kind of produce? Try to use the word produce when you tell about it.

“My favorite kind of **produce** is....”

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What's the word we've been talking about?

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*I will read a sentence. If it describes
produce, please give me a thumbs up.
If it describes something that is not
produce, thumbs down.*

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Thumbs Up = Produce

Thumbs Down = Not Produce



**We picked juicy, red apples from
the apple tree.**

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Thumbs Up = Produce

Thumbs Down = Not Produce



**We picked wildflowers in the
pasture.**

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Thumbs Up = Produce

Thumbs Down = Not Produce



**We bought plastic cups at the
grocery store.**

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Thumbs Up = Produce

Thumbs Down = Not Produce



**We bought a huge watermelon at
the market.**

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Thumbs Up = Produce

Thumbs Down = Not Produce



**Are those tomatoes ripe enough to
be eaten?**

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