



SPROUTS' MONTHLY BOOK



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 SC Ag in the Classroom
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August 2026– Monthly Book

It's Corn Picking Time

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Grade Levels Suggested: Adaptable for all Grades

Lesson by: Jonsey Proctor



Scan here for Lesson Slides!



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Visit www.scfb.org/monthlybook to find the digital version of this lesson plan.

Lesson Plan

Time length of the lesson:

- 30-45 minutes

Standards Addressed:

- K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.
- 1-LS1-1. Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.
- 2-LS2-1. Plan and conduct an investigation to determine what plants need to grow.
- 3-LS3-1. Analyze and interpret data to provide evidence that plants and animals have inherited traits that vary within a group of similar organisms.
- 4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function together in a system to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.
- 5-LS1-1. Support an argument with evidence that plants obtain materials they need for growth mainly from air and water.

Objective of the lesson:

- Students will learn about how corn grows and how it is harvested. Students will also be able to tell uses for corn beyond people eating it.

National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes:

- T1.K-2 -. Describe how farmers/ranchers use land to grow crops and support livestock
- T1.3-5-Recognize the natural resources used in agricultural practices to produce food, feed, clothing, landscaping plants, and fuel (e.g., soil, water, air, plants, animals, and minerals)
- T2.K-2-Explain how farmers/ranchers work with the lifecycle of plants and animals (planting/breeding) to harvest a crop
- T2.3-5-Explain how the availability of soil nutrients affects plant growth and development

Materials list:

- Chart paper
- Markers
- Sticky notes or index cards

Lesson Steps:

1. Ask "What do you know about corn?" Create a chart of student ideas.
2. Ask "What type of tractor do you think harvests corn?"
3. Read the book It's Corn Picking Time aloud.
4. Ask again, "What type of tractor do you think harvests corn?" combine
5. Ask "What color was the combine in the story?" red
6. Ask "Do all combines have to be red?" No, different brands come in different colors (red, green, yellow, blue)
7. Play Did You Know? Corn Facts using the Google Slides in the QR Code on the cover page.

Suggested ways to play:

- a. Have students use whiteboards and markers to respond to the question.
 - b. Play 4 corners-label the corners A/True, B/False, C, D. Have students move around the room to the answer choice they think is correct.
 - c. Have students work in teams to pick the best answer.
8. Show the video about corn and its uses
 [Learn Corn for Kids | Learn About Science for Kids](#)
 9. Discuss as a class some of the uses for corn shared in the video. Create a class list of the ways people use corn other than just eating corn on the cob or popcorn.
 - a. Uses for Corn: cornmeal, cornbread, grits, corn chips (Fritos), corn syrup (sodas), corn starch, livestock feed, ethanol in fuel, bioplastics, envelope seal glue, medicines (binding agent in pills and tablets), baby powder, cosmetics (binding agent)
 10. Show the picture on the last Google Slide. Ask "Which items in this picture do you think has no corn in it?" Answer, all items in this picture has some type of corn product in it, corn starch, corn syrup, grain, plastic

Assessment:

- Give each student a sticky note or index card.
- Have them write 1 fun fact they learned about corn and 2 things they learned that can be made from corn.

- Younger students could draw a picture to show something they learned about corn.

Additional Resources:

- **Activities:**

- Farming in a Glove (corn)
<https://agclassroom.org/matrix/companion-resources/793/>
- Popcorn on the Cob
https://agclassroomstore.com/popcorn-on-the-cob/?searchid=1294583&search_query=
- Get Popping!
https://agclassroomstore.com/get-popping/?searchid=0&search_query=

- **Ag Mags:**

- Corn
https://store.agfoundation.org/products/corn-ag-mag?_pos=2&_sid=6d167d98b&_ss=r

- **Books/Articles :**

- Hey, Hey, Hay! Book
- How Stuff Works: Corn
<https://agclassroom.org/matrix/companion-resources/833/>
- Harvest Machines
<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/harvest-machines>

- **Additional Lesson Plans:**

- Farm Machines & Safety
https://store.agfoundation.org/products/corn-ag-mag?_pos=2&_sid=6d167d98b&_ss=r
- Six Kinds do it All

<https://agclassroom.org/matrix/lessons/337/>

- Corn an A-maizing Plant

<https://agclassroom.org/matrix/lessons/141/>

- Made to Move

<https://agclassroom.org/matrix/lessons/827/>

- **South Carolina Agricultural Information**

- [State Agricultural Facts](#)

- [Teacher Center | National Agriculture in the Classroom](#)

- [Food & Farm Facts | South Carolina Farm Bureau](#)

