

Where's the Corn?

Grades 1-4: Pre-trip Activity I



PERFORMANCE GOALS:

Before visiting the farm, students will learn about the many different everyday items that are made using corn.

OBJECTIVE:

Students will understand the uses of corn.

NATIONAL STANDARD:

NS.K-4.3 Life Science

As a result of activities in grades K-4, all students should develop an understanding of the characteristics of organisms, life cycles of organisms, and organisms and environments.

PREPARATION:

1. Print the clue cards on the following pages onto cardstock.
2. Cut the fact cards apart (there will be 12 cards in all) so that there's an illustration on one half of the card and an answer on the other.
3. Fold each card in half so that the illustration is on one side and the answer is on the reverse side.
4. Place all the folded cards into a farmers hat, a fishbowl, or a box decorated with illustrations of corn (decorations optional).
5. Did we mention that this is a classroom game show? So don't be afraid to get creative! If you feel like creating some flashy signage or decorations, go for it! If you like, you can enlarge and print out the game show title card on the first page of the "Where's the Corn?" Teacher Resource Sheet. You can also use a bell or a buzzer, or even bring in a boom box to play the theme music of your choice. Hey, it's your show! Go nuts!

ACTIVITY:

1. Explain to your students that they are about to become contestants on a brand new game show called "Where's the Corn?" To succeed at this game show, they will need to correctly identify which everyday items shown on the clue cards are made using corn.
2. Divide your class into two, three, or four teams. Encourage the teams to come up with corny names for themselves ("True Grits" "The Niblets" etc.)
3. Provide your class with these basic game instructions: "I will call on a team and then I will draw a clue card out of the hat (box or bowl) at random. I will show everyone the illustration on the card. The members of the chosen team will then have to discuss the illustration and decide whether they think the everyday item in the illustration is made using corn. When the team is ready to give their answer, they will buzz (or ring) in and say either 'Here's the corn!' if they believe the item is made using corn, or 'No corn here!' if they think the items is not made using corn. If your team gives a correct answer, you will get a point. If your team gives an incorrect answer, you will not get a point. Whether correct or incorrect, I will then show a new card to the next team."
4. Begin game play as described above. After each team responds, read the answer from the back of the clue card. Please remember to keep score on the chalk board or dry-erase board.
5. When all the clue cards have been drawn and each team has had an opportunity to play an equal number of times, add up all the points. The team that has the most points is the winner. The winning team might get special recognition in class or a special privilege at your discretion.

MATERIALS:


- One copy of the "Where's the Corn?" Clue Cards printed on cardstock and cut apart.
- A farmer's straw hat, gold fish bowl, or box decorated with drawings of corn. (This vessel will be used for mixing up and selecting the game cards.)
- Optional: buzzer or bells, team banners, etc. (at teacher's discretion)

MATERIALS REQUIRED



TEACHER RESOURCE SHEET

FOR TEACHER: Using scissors or a paper cutter, cut apart the cards below. Fold each one in half so that the illustration is on one side and the answer is on the other side.

	<p>Here's the Corn!</p> <p>Soda Pop: Contains high-fructose corn syrup made from corn.</p>
	<p>No Corn Here!</p> <p>Dill Pickles: There's corn syrup in ketchup and prepared mustard, but not in dill pickles!</p>
	<p>Here's the Corn!</p> <p>Candy Bar: Many candy bars contain corn syrup.</p>
	<p>No Corn Here!</p> <p>Milk: Corn is sometimes fed to dairy cows, but there's no corn in their milk.</p>
	<p>Here's the Corn!</p> <p>Cookies: Many cookies are made with corn starch or corn flour.</p>
	<p>No Corn Here!</p> <p>Cornrow Braids: They are called 'cornrows', but there's no corn in them.</p>