



FOURTH GRADE LESSON: Farming SC STANDARD: 4.USS.5



It's your world.

FARMING

OBJECTIVES:

- Understand what a farmer does
- Explain what foods are mostly found on farms
- Describe how farmers earn a living and explain what a farmer's market is
- Learn how to start a small farm at home

LET'S GET STARTED! (10 MINUTES):

- Explain what a farmer's job is and how they earn a living
- Briefly describe what a farmer's market is and how it works
- Discuss what foods are grown on farms and the steps that are involved in growing food
- Teach students how they can start their own small farm in their backyard

ACTIVITY (15 MINUTES):

- The handout shows a picture of Boss as a farmer selling his food at the farmer's market for money
- Students will draw pictures of the foods they think Boss should grow and sell at the market

WRAPPING UP (5 MINUTES):

- Hand out Boss' Backpack Bulletin with the weekly goal

SC STANDARDS:

- 4.USS.5 Explain the importance of jobs in the fulfillment of personal and social goals

MATERIALS:

- The Farming Cycle sheet
- Boss at the Farmer's Market handout
- Boss' Backpack Bulletin
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

LET'S GET STARTED!

- Begin by discussing what a farmer is, what their job is, and how they earn a living, explaining that the farmer's market is one way that farmers can make money.
- List some of the vegetables that can be grown on a farm and the six steps for growing food.

DIALOGUE BOX

- A farmer is a person who owns and takes care of a farm. Farms are flat pieces of land where food can be grown, like corn, lettuce, and beans.
- Farmers are extremely important to everyone because they grow the food that we eat; without farmers, we would not have nearly as much food as we do now.
- Farmers earn their living through the farming they do. They plant the seeds that grow our food, and then they ship the food off to markets, grocery stores, or other companies that can sell that food to us.
- One of the ways they can earn their living is through something called a "farmer's market." A farmer's market is a place where all types of farmers gather together to sell their food to their local community!
- There will be tons of farmers that attend the farmer's market, and usually the farmer's market is open on Saturday mornings and sometimes on Wednesday mornings. This is a great way to support your local farmers, get fresh fruits and vegetables, and have a lot of fun!
- If you decide to go to a farmer's market, then make sure you bring some cash with you and a sturdy bag for all of the goodies that you buy!

BOSS' FUN FACTS

Tomatoes are great vegetables to grow at home or in your own garden! They are very easy to plant and take care of, and only take about three months to grow! Depending on the type of tomato, they can also be grown almost all year-round!

DIALOGUE BOX

- There are several different types of foods that farmers can grow that include mostly vegetables.
- Some of the vegetables you may find on a farm are carrots, spinach, lettuce, squash, corn, tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, and peppers.
- Depending on the season, some vegetables grow better than others. For example, spinach, cucumbers, and tomatoes grow better in the summer, while squash and pumpkins grow better in the fall.
- Growing these foods may seem easy, but there are a lot of steps that go into farming.

- Show The Farming Cycle handout.
 - Step one: pick out the food you want to grow.
 - Step two: prepare your land by cleaning it off and making places for your seeds to go.
 - Step three: pick out and plant your seeds.
 - Step four: water plants enough so they don't dry out.
 - Step five: plants begin to grow.
 - Step six: harvest, or pick, the food that has grown on your farm.
- Ask students if they have any questions about farming, and then move on to explaining how they can create their own small farm at home in their backyard

DIALOGUE BOX

- Farming does not only have to be for the farmers themselves. You can even grow your own small farm at home in your backyard!
- If you would like to grow your own food, you can pretty much follow the same steps that the farmers do!
- First, pick out a food you want to grow. Tomatoes, herbs, peppers, and lettuce are great foods to start out with!
- Pick a place in your backyard that has soft dirt. You can also place your seeds in a big pot.
- Plant the seeds in the soil, which you can buy at your local hardware store if you are using pots, making sure they have enough sun and water to nourish them. Now, you just wait!
- When the plant starts to produce food, you can pick the vegetables off of the plant and eat them whenever you want!
- Once you have tried something easy, you can try to plant something more difficult next time, like cucumbers or melons!

ACTIVITY

- The activity for this lesson is going to get the students to draw picture of some foods that can be seen on a farm for Boss to sell at the farmer's market
- Pass out Boss at the Farmer's Market handout along with some colored pencils, markers, or crayons

DIALOGUE BOX

- For this week's lesson, you all learned about farmers, farmer's markets, and some of the foods that can be found on a farm.
- Boss is at the farmer's market trying to earn a living by selling some of the food he grew on his farm. Your job is going to be to draw pictures of some of the foods that you think Boss should grow and sell at the farmer's market!
- You can include fruits, vegetables, and even grains, such as rice, corn, wheat, or oats, in your drawing.
- When everyone is finished, we will go around and

share one item that you chose for Boss to sell at the farmer's market!

- When all the students have finished their drawings, go around and ask if anyone would like to share one food that they chose to draw for Boss to sell at the market

WRAPPING UP

- Ask if any of the students have any questions about the lesson on farming.
- Pass out Boss' Backpack Bulletin and explain the weekly goal and that there is a guide to growing a tomato plant.

DIALOGUE BOX

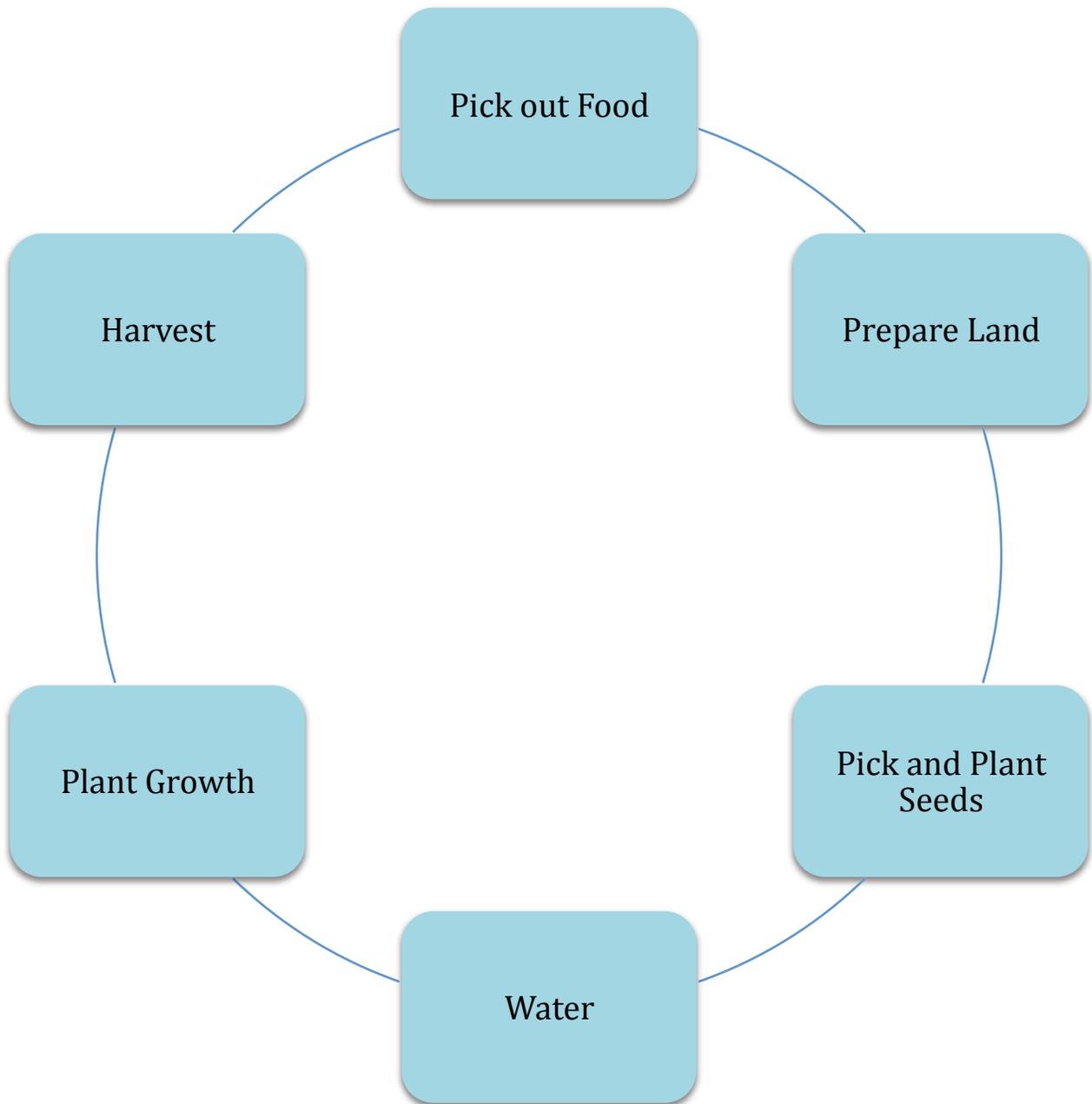
- This week's goal is to visit a farmer's market in your community to support your local farmers! Write down all the foods you see there and if you buy anything, write that down too!
- There is also a guide to growing a tomato plant! Try it out and see how it goes!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY

- For a more hands-on activity, plant a vegetable or herb with your entire class and allow the plant to grow in the classroom
- Herbs, like basil, dill, or mint, are great and easy to grow, and some do not need direct sunlight, making a classroom a good environment for it to thrive in
- Go out to your local hardware store or super market and buy some herb seeds (they are super cheap), a small pot, and some soil
- Plant the seeds with the class to show them how easy it is to grow plants, and that they can do the same thing in their own backyard



THE FARMING CYCLE



BOSS AT THE FARMERS MARKET



BOSS' BACKPACK BULLETIN

Your goal for this week is to try and visit a farmer's market in your community to support local farmers in the area! Write down what you saw or draw a picture in the blue rectangle of the market and the different types of foods that you saw there! If you bought something, write down what it was so you can share it with the class next week!



My Local Farmer's Market

A large blue rectangular area intended for students to draw or write about their local farmer's market experience.

How to Grow a Tomato:

1. Buy tomato plant seeds from the store.
2. Plant the seeds in a medium to large sized pot that has been filled with soil.
3. Once seeds have been buried under the soil, water the soil until it is compact.
4. Let the pot sit out in the sun, and water it daily. Do not water it too much because it can kill the plant. Water the plant just enough for the soil to get wet.
5. Wait for your tomatoes to grow and turn red before picking!

Some of the food I bought at the farmer's market this week:

Four horizontal lines provided for students to list the food they bought at the farmer's market.