

A Southwest Florida Water Management District Newsletter for Grades K-2

## Hi!

I am Ripply. I will help you learn about farming. We have a lot of farms in our area. There are all kinds of them!
We will read stories. We will play games and color. Everything will be about farming.

Let's begin now!

## * Water Wows!

It takes 100 gallons of water to grow a watermelon. That's about the same as two full bathtubs!


People who work on farms are called farmers. Farmers grow plants and raise animals for us to eat. The work farmers do is called agriculture (ag-rih-kul-cher), or "ag" for short.

There are many kinds of farms. Strawberries,
 peppers and

 and chickens. Lots of $\frac{3}{3}$ are raised in lakes and ponds on fish farms.
all living things need 0 . Farmers need to grow fruits and vegetables. Animals need to grow up strong and healthy. Farmers have learned to save 10 to make sure there is enough for everyone.

The End


1
A vegetable is a plant or part of a plant. Vegetables grow under the ground or near it.

2
A fruit is part of a plant with seeds in it. Fruits grow on bushes, plants and trees.

3
An animal is a living thing that can move around.

We eat many vegetables, fruits and parts of animals. They are grown or raised on farms. What kind of food is each thing below? Write number 1 near the vegetables, number 2 near fruits and number 3 near the animals.


Name your favorite fruit, vegetable or meat.
Draw a picture of it below.

Florida farmers grow and raise many kinds of food. Just like people, these plants and animals all need
 water to live. To make sure there is enough for everyone, farmers have learned many ways to save water.

For each food listed below, find and color the letters of the word on the following page.

## O R A N G E

find these letters and color them orange


## L E T T U C E

find these letters and color them green

## C O W

find these letters and color them brown



Now write one of these words below and draw a picture to match.

The things we eat and drink come from many places. Choose items to make a good dinner for yourself.

Then draw your dinner in the space below.


## Water Watcher Activity

## Let's make a mini vegetable garden. It's fun!

Materials:

- a pot
- potting soil • water


## Directions:

1. Fill a pot with potting soil. Then press down on the soil.
2. Use your finger to poke a hole in the soil. The hole should be as deep as your fingernail. Make other holes about 2 inches apart.
3. Place a seed in each hole.
4. Cover the holes with soil and press down with your hands.
5. Put on just enough water to make the soil damp and place the pot in a sunny place. Your plants will need 6 hours of sunlight every day.
6. Your garden may need water every day. When the soil feels dry, add just enough water to make it damp. Be a good farmer and use just the water you need.



## How to Play:

1. The first player will be $\mathbf{O}$. Player $\mathbf{O}$ will point to a picture and tell why it needs clean, fresh water. An $O$ should be drawn on the picture.
2. The other player is $X$. Player $X$ will point to another picture and tell why it needs water. Then an $X$ should be drawn on the picture.
3. Take turns. The first player to have three Xs or Os in a line is the winner. The line may be across, up and down or on a diagonal.

Southwest Florida Water Management District

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