Where does your food come from?
GrowIt-KnowIt App
93% of Nebraska’s land is used for farming and ranching. The average farm size is 500–1,000 acres. One farmer produces enough food to feed 155 people.
What’s on “My Plate”? AND Where did it come from?
What’s for lunch?

Ham & Cheese Sandwich
Corn
Baby Carrots
Strawberry Cups
Milk
Ham
(on the Ham & Cheese Sandwich)
Where did it come from?

Ham
Ham

Beef (Beef)?
Sheep (Lamb)?
Corn & Soybeans?
Pigs (Pork)?
Ham

NO

Sheep (Lamb)?

Corn & Soybeans?

Pigs (Pork)?
Ham

NO

NO

Corn & Soybeans?

Pigs (Pork)?
Ham

NO
NO
NO

Pigs (Pork)?
What comes from a PIG?

250 Pound Market Hog (Pig)

| 130 Pounds Meat (Pork) | 120 Pounds By-products |
What About PIGS/HOGS/PORK

• There are 3,000 pig farms in Nebraska.
• Nebraska is RANKED 6th in pig/hog production.
• Pigs/hogs are raised in barns;
  ✓ To keep them safe from predators.
  ✓ To protect them from extreme temperatures.
  ✓ To keep them healthy and comfortable.
• Nebraska’s pig farmers help feed you and your family.
• Farmers care about the well-being of their animals and follow strict guidelines for responsible food production.
Cheese
(on the Ham & Cheese Sandwich)

Milk

Dairy
Where do these come from?

Milk
Cheese
Raised mainly for MILK

Dairy Cattle

Raised for MEAT (BEEF)

Beef Cattle
DAIRY FARMING… where MILK comes from.
Choose MyPlate.gov
Bun
(As part of the Ham & Cheese Sandwich)
Where did it come from?
Bun

Corn

Soybeans

Wheat
NO

Soybeans

Wheat

Bun
What About Wheat

Wheat comes from a PLANT.

Wheat is a GRAIN. Other things that are made from WHEAT:

- Bread
- Baked Goods
- Pizza Crust
- Pasta
- Cereals
Corn

Vegetables
What About CORN
Corn comes from a PLANT.
HOW BIG IS AN ACRE?

43,560 square feet
Almost the size of a football field. Outlined in RED.
Corn

Soybeans
Planting CORN
Harvesting CORN
The Tales of Two CORN

FIELD CORN
- 99% of the corn planted in U.S.
- Harvested when mature dry.
- Multiple Uses
- Nebraska is known as the “Cornhusker State” – and is the THIRD largest corn-producing state in the United States.

SWEET CORN
- 1% of the corn planted in U.S.
- Harvested when immature.
- Human Consumption ~ people purchase fresh, frozen or canned for eating.
Uses of CORN

- **34%** - Livestock Feed for cattle, pork and poultry
- **7%** - Distiller Grains (from Ethanol Production) used for livestock feed
- **27%** - Ethanol Production
- **9%** - Food, Seed & Industrial Uses
- **11%** - Exported to Other Countries
- **13%** - Surplus carried for the next year

Corn Displaced by Distillers Grains, used as feed
Nebraska Ag Facts

CORN

• 3rd largest corn producing state in the United States.
• Farmers are producing 6X more corn than in the 1920s.
• 9.1 million acres in corn production.

SOYBEANS

• 5th largest soybean producer in the United States
• Soybean production generates $2 billion annually, making soybeans the second leading crop in Nebraska, next to corn.

WHEAT

• 12th largest wheat producer in the United States
• 1.5 million acres in wheat production
Baby Carrots
What About CARROTS

Root Vegetable
What About
BABY CARROTS

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1a0_LRleXj8
Strawberry Cups
What About STRAWBERRIES

Growing in a Family Garden

Growing Hydroponically (Water)

Growing Commercially
What About STRAWBERRIES

- Strawberries are the only fruit that wear their seeds on the outside.  
  There are over 200 seeds on each strawberry.

- Strawberries aren’t true berries, like blueberries or even grapes.  
  Technically, a berry has its seeds on the inside. To be really technical, each seed on a strawberry is considered by scientists to be its own separate fruit.

- Strawberries are members of the rose family.  
  That’s why they smell as sweet as they taste.

- The strawberry plant is a perennial.  
  This means if you plant one now, it will come back next year and the following and the year after that.

- Americans eat an average of almost 5 POUNDS of (fresh and frozen) strawberries each per year.

- Native Americans ate strawberries long before European settlers arrived.

- California grows about 82% of the strawberries in the United States.
  They grow about 2.7 billion pounds each year. Fun fact: if California were a country, it would be the world’s largest producer of strawberries!
Nebraska Ag Facts

FRUITS & VEGETABLES

• Requires special equipment, a lot of people, and a lot of information to make a profit (money).
• Sell at farmers’ markets, roadside stands, U-pick operations and/or through wholesale and/or retail outlets.
• Growers have increased from 78 in 2000 to 552 in 2011.
• In Nebraska ~ over 80 farmers’ markets, nearly 290 roadside stands, and approximately 55 U-pick operations.
What about the GROW LAB

CULTIVATING PLANTS & MINDS

Heritage Elementary School Plant Science Program
Sponsored by: Douglas County Farm Bureau
Supported by: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension
What about the GROW LAB

The Tomato Project
Transplanting, Growing, Watering & Tasting

The Tasting Opportunity
Lettuce, Radishes & Carrots

The Economics Project
Planting
Watering & Caring
Marketing
Selling at Field Day!
Where does your food come from?

AGRICULTURE!

- AGRICULTURE is the largest industry in Nebraska.
- Nebraska AGRICULTURE helps feed the world.
- Farmers raise crops and/or livestock to make a profit so that they can feed the world.
Now you know!