

Agriculture Adventures

for Families

Illinois farmers and home gardeners throughout Illinois are a bit behind this year with the lack of cooperation from Mother Nature. This month we take a fun look at ways to engage your young farmers in understanding how the seeds they plant will result in food production both above and below the soil. Have some fun looking through your produce section if you don't have a garden to open a discussion about just what part of the plants you are eating.



What part am I eating??

Seeds

- Small object that will grow into another plant
- Packaged little plants with food around them (endosperm) and a covering protecting them (seed coat)
- Takes roots and grows into new plants

Includes: Corn, Peas, and Beans

Flowers

- Produce the plant's seeds
- Part of the plant that contains reproductive parts and attracts pollinators

Includes: Broccoli, Cauliflower, and Artichoke

Fruits

- The ripened ovary of a plant containing the seeds
- Part of the plant we usually eat that has the seeds inside
- Protects and nourish the seeds

Includes: Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Pumpkin, and Peppers

Leaves

- Soak up sunlight and carbon dioxide from the air and convert it to food for the plant (photosynthesis)

Includes: Lettuce, Spinach, Brussels Sprouts, Kale, Chard, and Cabbage

Stem

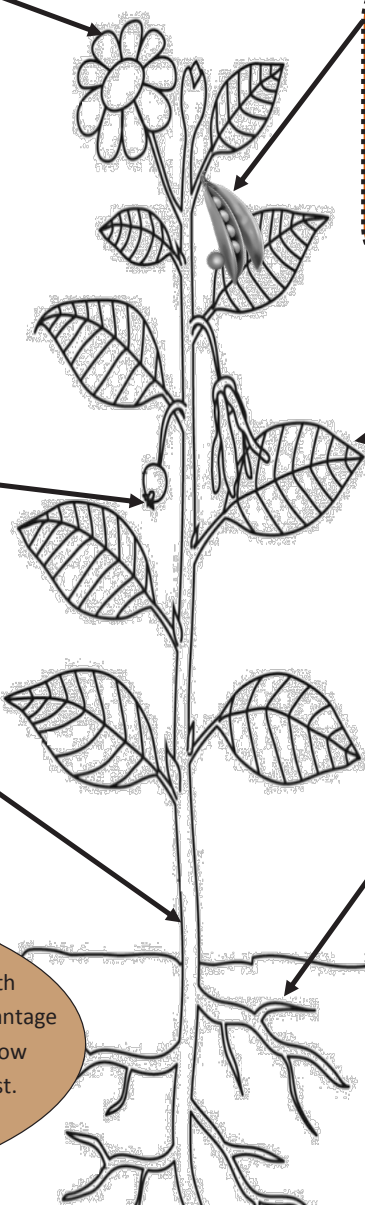
- Carries water and nutrients taken up by the roots to the leaves
- Provides support for the plant allowing the leaves to reach the sunlight that they need to produce food

Includes: Asparagus, Celery, and Rhubarb

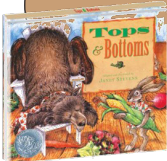
Roots

- Help provide support by anchoring the plant under the ground
- Absorb water and nutrients needed for growth

Includes: Beets, Carrots, Radishes, and Turnips



This colorful book by Janet Stevens, focuses on a tale involving a Bear and Hare who form a gardening partnership, with industrious, clever Hare reaping all the vegetable profits. Hare's advantage is his knowledge of specialty crops, knowing what plants grow above and below the ground to plan his share of the harvest. A wonderful introduction to understanding the origins of foods that can be grown in home gardens.



Potatoes are often referred to as root crops. Potatoes are thought to be roots because they grow underground. However, potatoes are not roots. Instead, potatoes are specialized stems that shoot off from the root. These offshoots are called tubers. The potato tuber serves as a massive storage reserve for a range of macromolecules, such as starch and protein.



June Word Search

L N H S V R L I N H G H S L R
R B G Y T E N M J R Q D O E H
M O Y Y A N F L O W E R S T F
P M O V G G E W E E M K S T O
V C E T P B L I S G P E E U O
V S A S T E M E R A V P O C D
E N F R A E W H M T X M T E G
A Q A K R A Y I J I U L A C T
T U P Y L O L R E J E N M F O
N Y I H D O T Z E X N U O D F
T A V I C W H S H L I D T X Q
H R M C N T B K Y M E G N U A
M S O K O N R O C A U C A F I
H R J P A Y T S A C W Y L Z P
B N V S T I U R F C J D P C X

Broccoli
Carrots
Corn
Eat
Flowers
Food
Fruits
Grow

Leaves
Lettuce
Nutrients
Plant
Root
Seeds
Stem
Tomatoes

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Membership #: _____

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

___ Beggar's Pizza GC ___ HRI GC ___ 3 Movie Tix
(If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

Choose your prize:

Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR *3 AMC Movie Tickets *AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.

Complete the Word Search puzzle for your chance to win! Winners will be contacted by mail.

Mail to: Cook Co. Farm Bureau

Ag Adventures Word Search

6438 Joliet Rd

Countryside, IL 60525

Fax to: 708-579-6056

Email to: FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2019 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies. Good luck!

Last's months word search winner is...

Annette Drzewiecki

