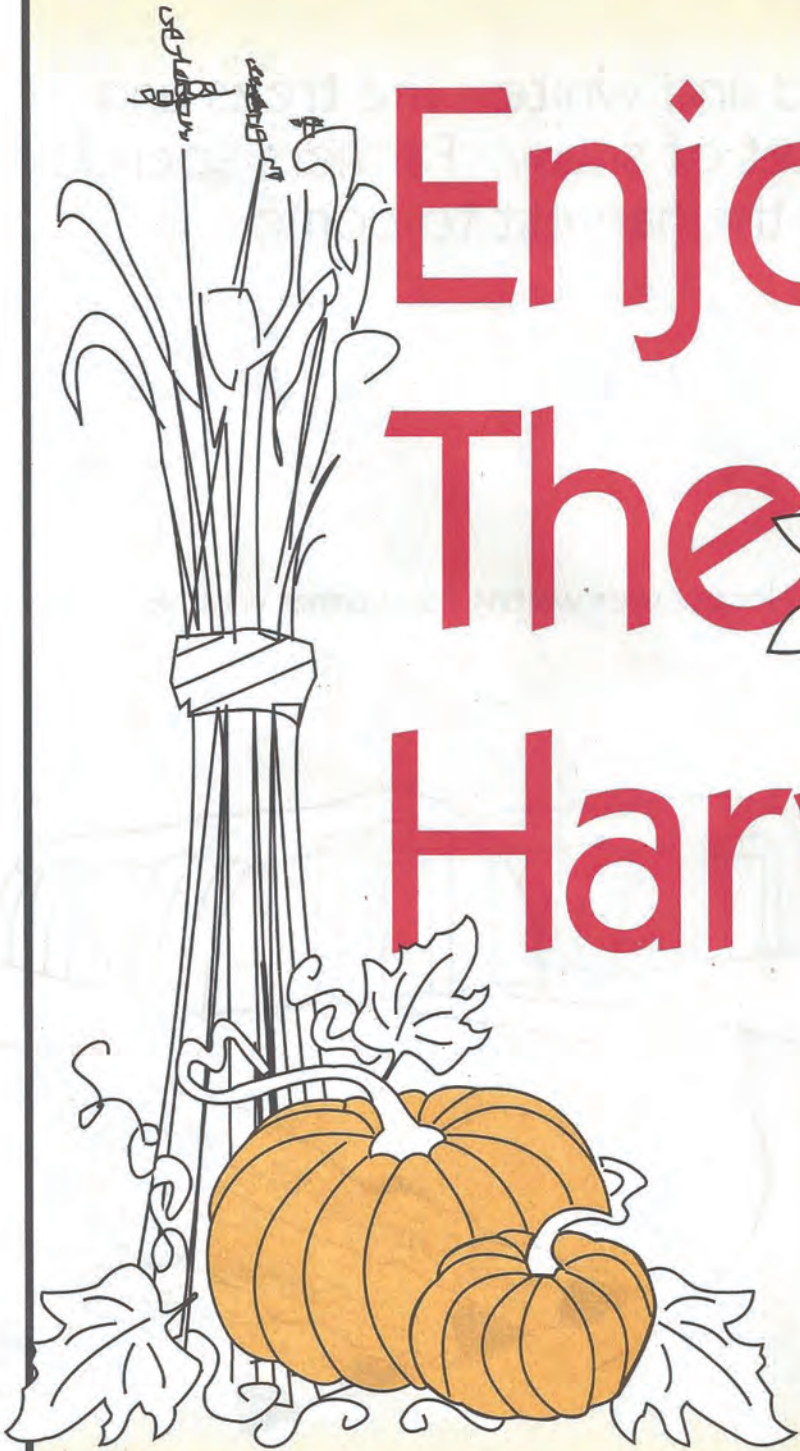


# Enjoying The Harvest



**Journey To Wisconsin's Harvest**



# January January January

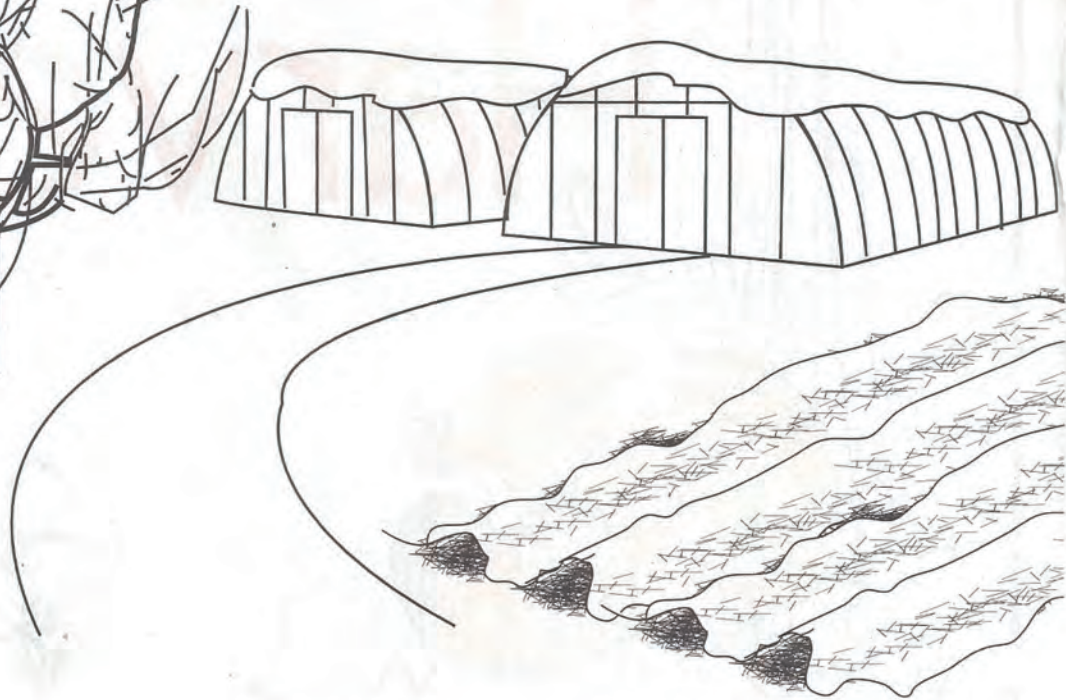
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Winter in Wisconsin is cold and white. The trees and plants sleep under a blanket of snow. Farmers spend frosty days preparing for the harvest to come.



Apple orchard in Winter.

Hoophouses waiting for warmer weather.



Strawberry plants mulched with straw under a blanket of snow.



Trees, plants, seeds and supplies are ordered. Apple trees are pruned. Greenhouses are cleaned and organized. Farmers get together to talk and learn from each other.

Find the fruits and vegetables hidden in this puzzle.

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

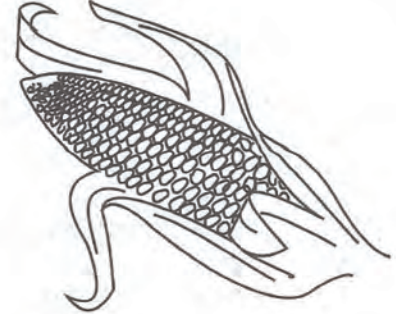
APPLE  
BEANS  
BEETS  
BLUEBERRIES  
BROCCOLI

CABBAGE  
CARROT  
CAULIFLOWER  
~~CORN~~  
CUCUMBER

EGGPLANT  
KOHLRABI  
LETTUCE  
ONION  
PEAS

POTATO  
PUMPKIN  
RASPBERRIES  
SQUASH  
STRAWBERRIES  
TOMATO

Match the seeds to what they'll become.

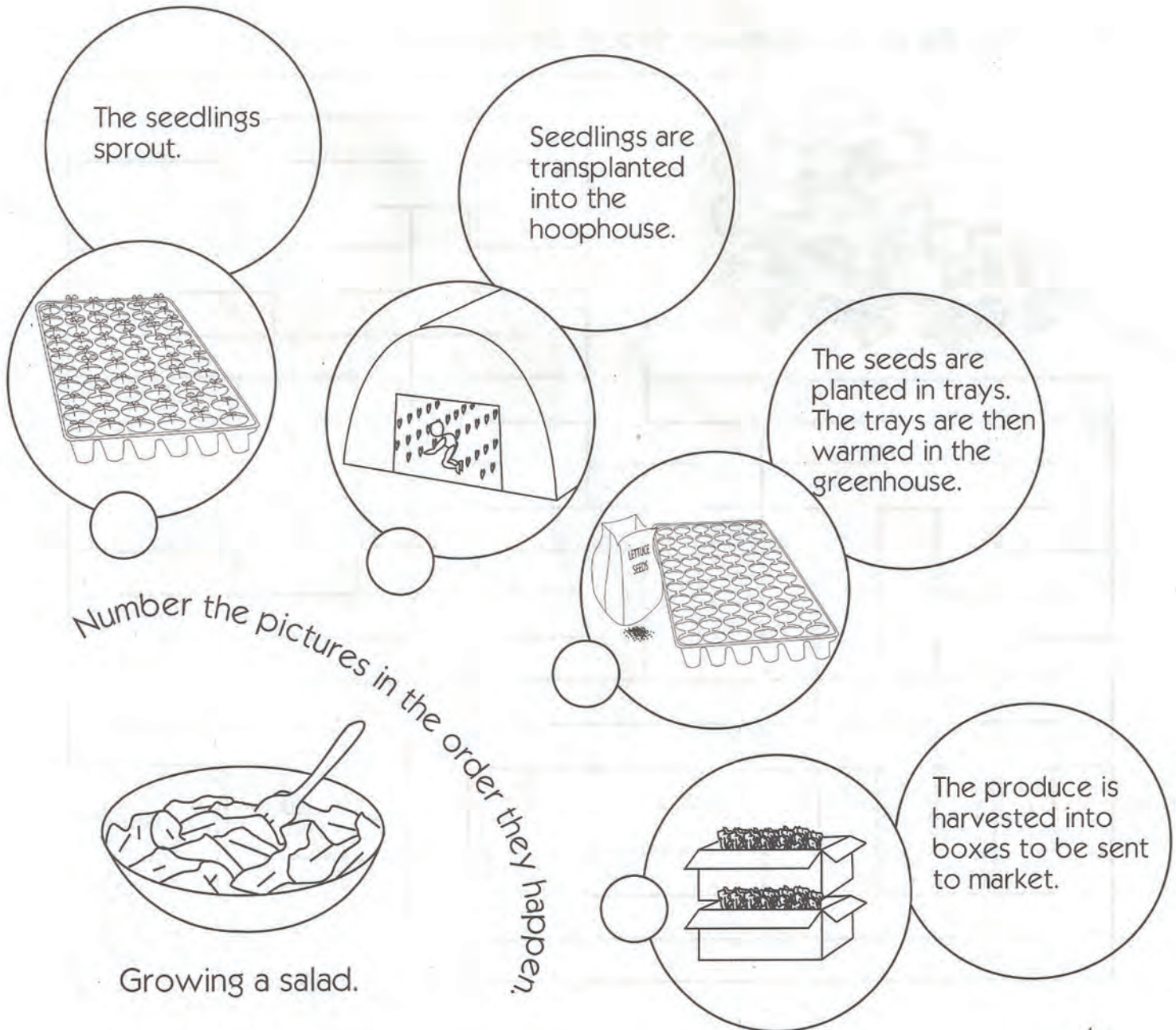


Spring is in the air. Greenhouse heaters warm newly planted trays of seeds. Tractors and equipment for planting and weeding are checked and repaired. Soil inside the hoophouse is tilled, enriched and made ready for planting.



# March March March April

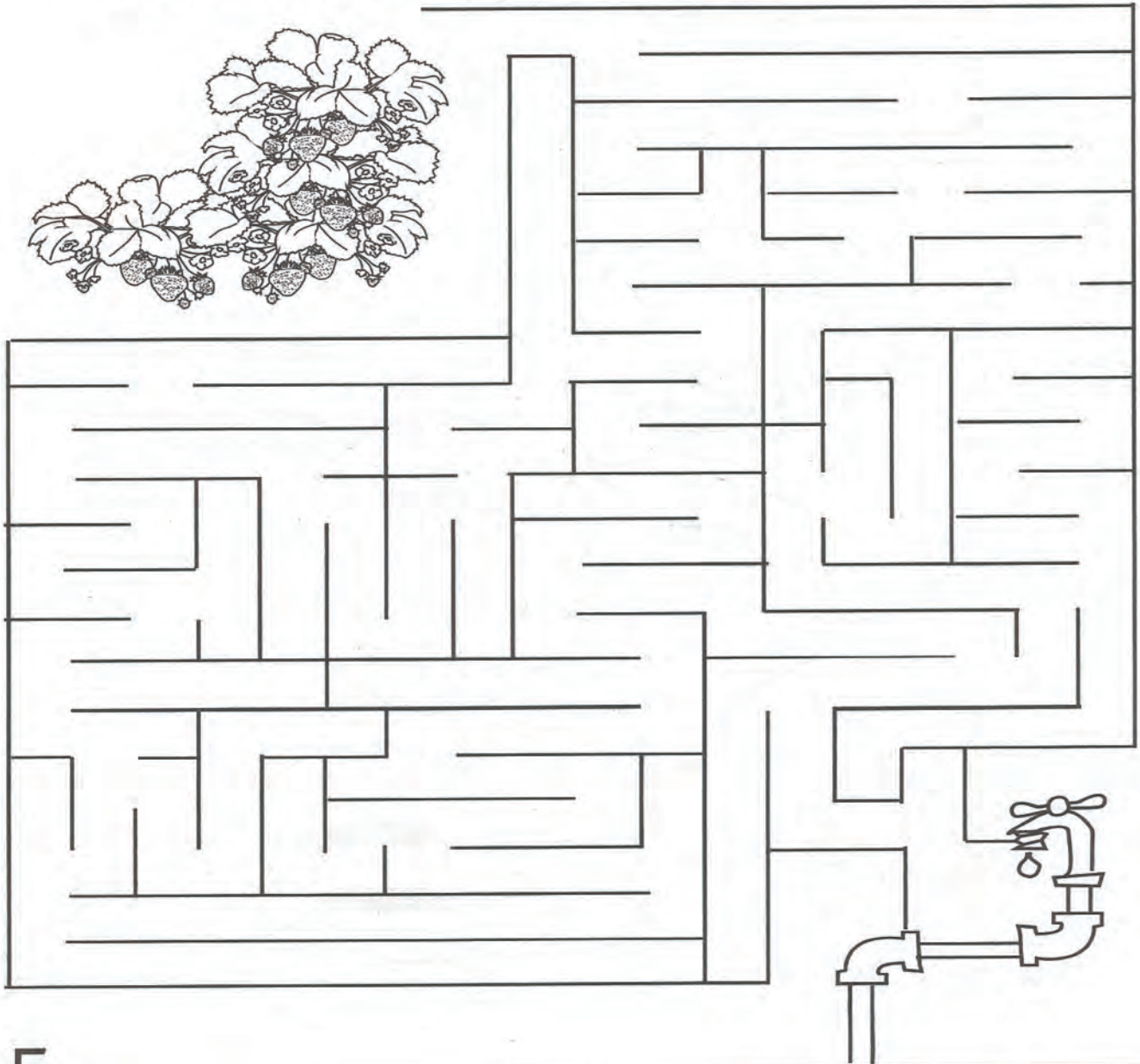
Farmers sneak a peek at strawberry plants still asleep under their winter covering of mulch. The transplanting of seedlings into hoophouses begins. Seeding and transplanting will continue now through September.





Farm fields are tilled and prepared for planting. Transplants and seeds that are tolerant of the cold can be planted outdoors. Mulch is removed from the strawberry beds and irrigation pipes to carry water are laid out in the fields.

Help the water find its way through the pipes to the strawberries.









# April May May May May May

The apple trees are blossoming and orchardists bring in bees for pollination. New apple trees are planted. They will have fruit in about three years. Rhubarb and asparagus are ready for picking and farmers begin selling at city markets and to families who buy crop shares.



Apple blossoms, as well as the blossoms of other plants, attract bees and other pollinators through color, shading and scent.

When bees land on an apple blossom, they are rewarded with a drink of nectar and a lunch of pollen. Some of the pollen sticks to their bodies and legs. When the bee flies



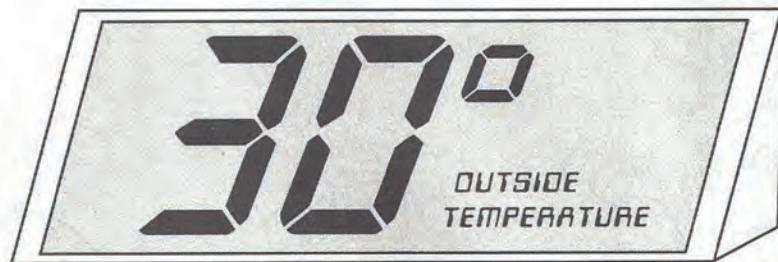
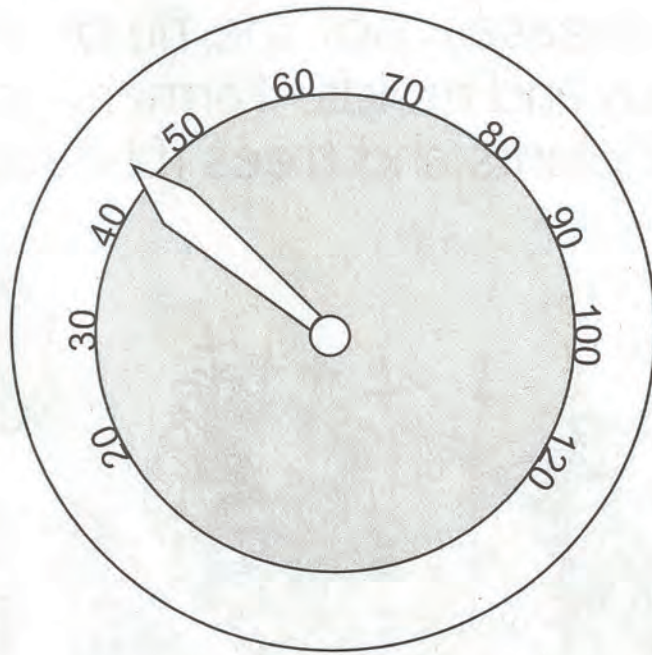
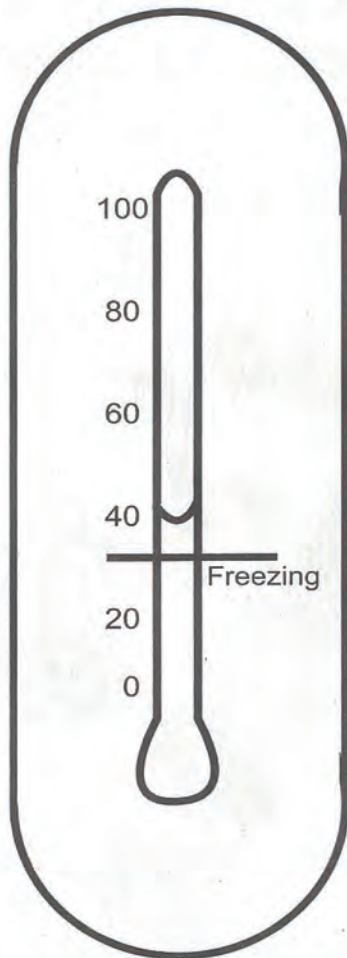
to the next blossom to continue its meal, it spreads the collected pollen to the new blossom. Ta-da! Pollination is complete and an apple begins to grow.



Trace the bee's path and draw new small apples on the branch.



At 34 degrees farenheit, berry farmers begin irrigating their crop to protect it from the cold. Color the thermometers below - green if the berries are safe and red if the berries are in danger.



Strawberry blossoms appear and farmers begin "frost watch." When the temperature gets near freezing, farmers turn on their water irrigation. Water freezing around the blossoms and young berries protects the fruit from damage.



# May June June June June

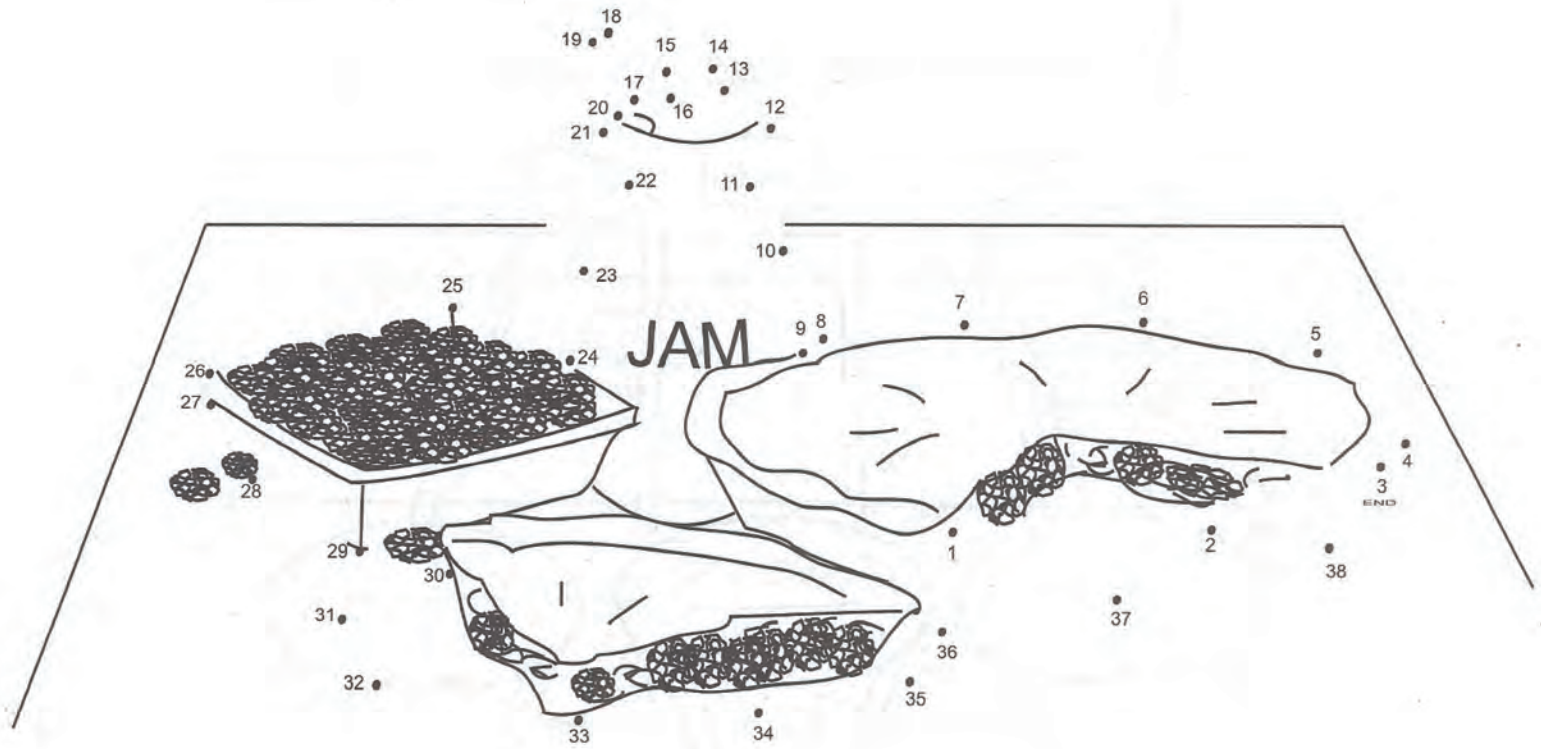
With warmer weather comes bugs and more bugs. Farmers scout or look for bugs and treat plants to protect them from insect damage. Plants also get diseases...not the flu or a cold like people, but fungus and molds. Farmers need to keep watch and treat plants and trees if needed.



Can you find all 17 bugs in the vegetable field?



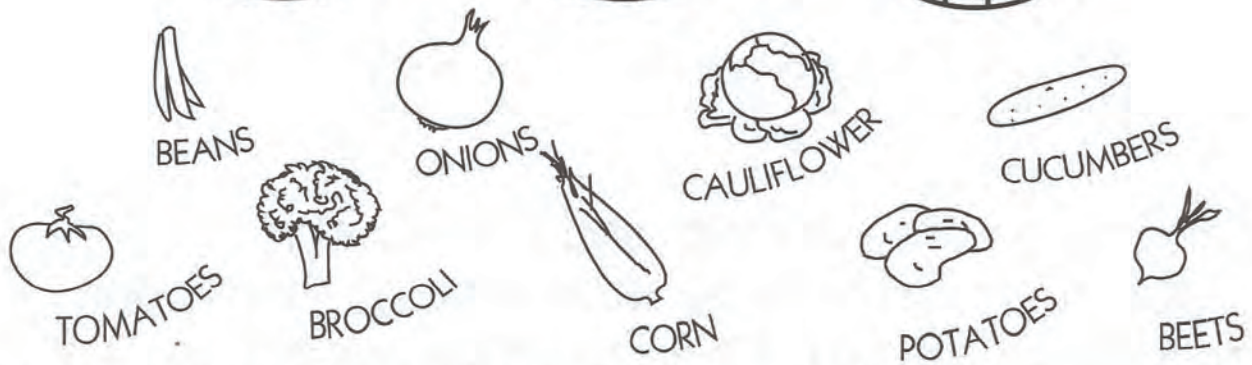
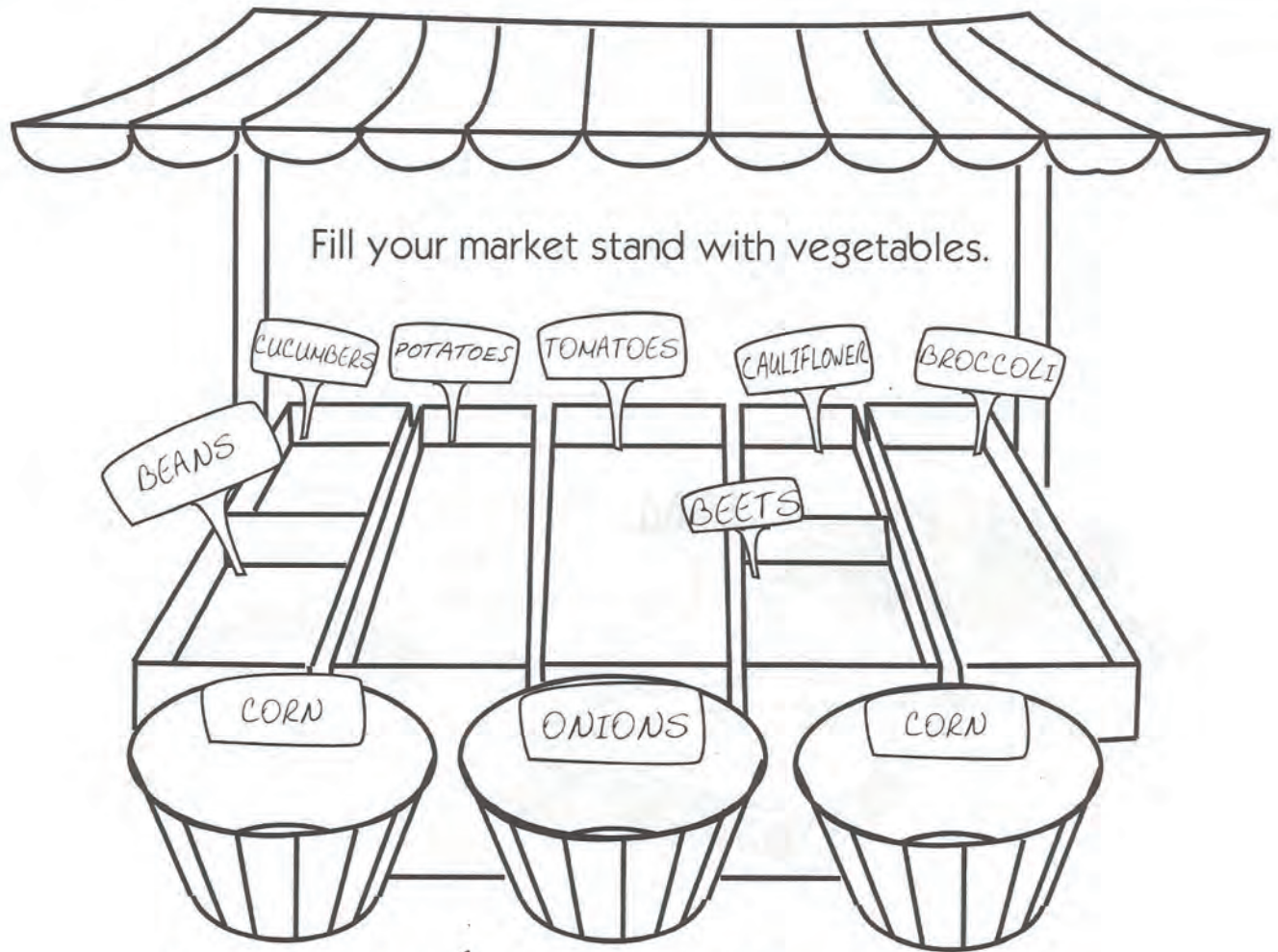




Connect the dots to discover some tasty berry treats!

Depending on the weather and the variety, strawberries begin to ripen this time of year. Once berries start to ripen, it's a busy few weeks and harvest is done. Raspberries also ripen now. Some varieties have fruit in the summer or fall, others have berries all season long.

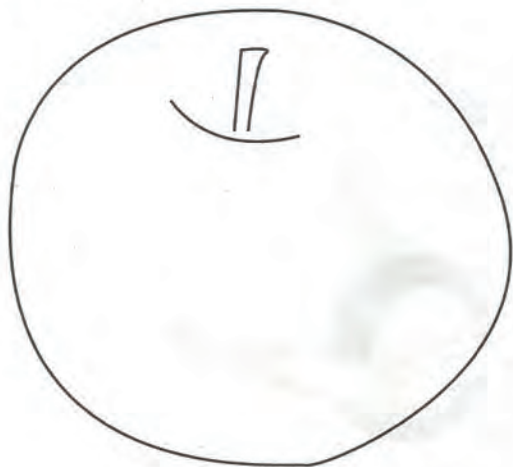




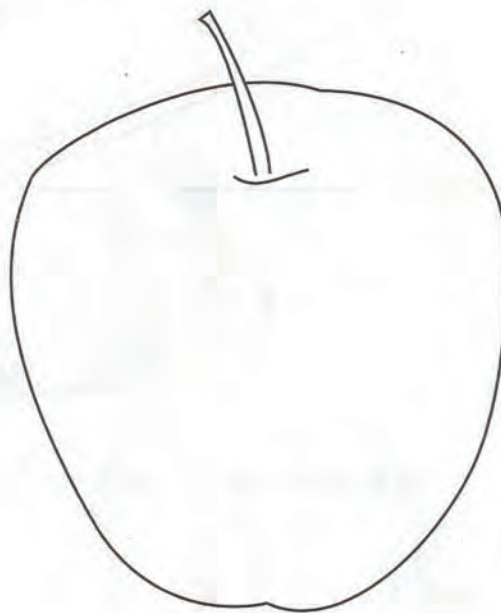
Red, juicy tomatoes ripen in the middle of summer, and sweet corn by the dozen appears in roadside stands. Farmers are tracking rainfall and watching the weather. Plants need sunshine and rain in the right amounts to make it to harvest.



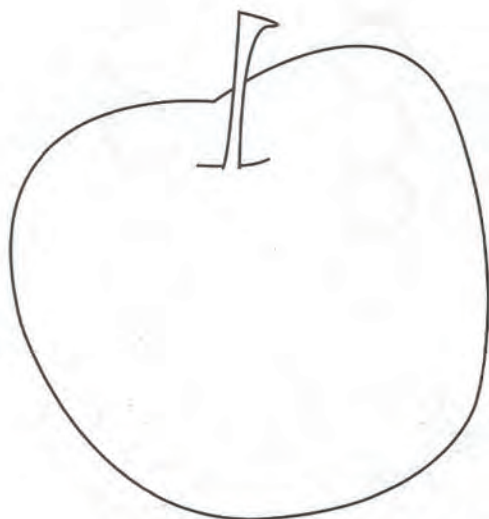
After strawberry season is over, plants are cut back into neat and tidy rows. Blueberry bushes brighten with big, juicy berries and apples hang heavy on branches waiting to ripen.



IDARED



GOLDEN DELICIOUS



NORTHWESTERN GREENING

Ripe apples can be green, yellow or red. Can you tell by these apple names what color they should be? Color the apples the way they will look when ripe.



# July August August Aug

The garden brings forth its bounty as the summer continues - beans and beets, carrots and cauliflower, cucumbers, eggplant, melons and peppers, spinach, squash, tomatoes and zucchini!

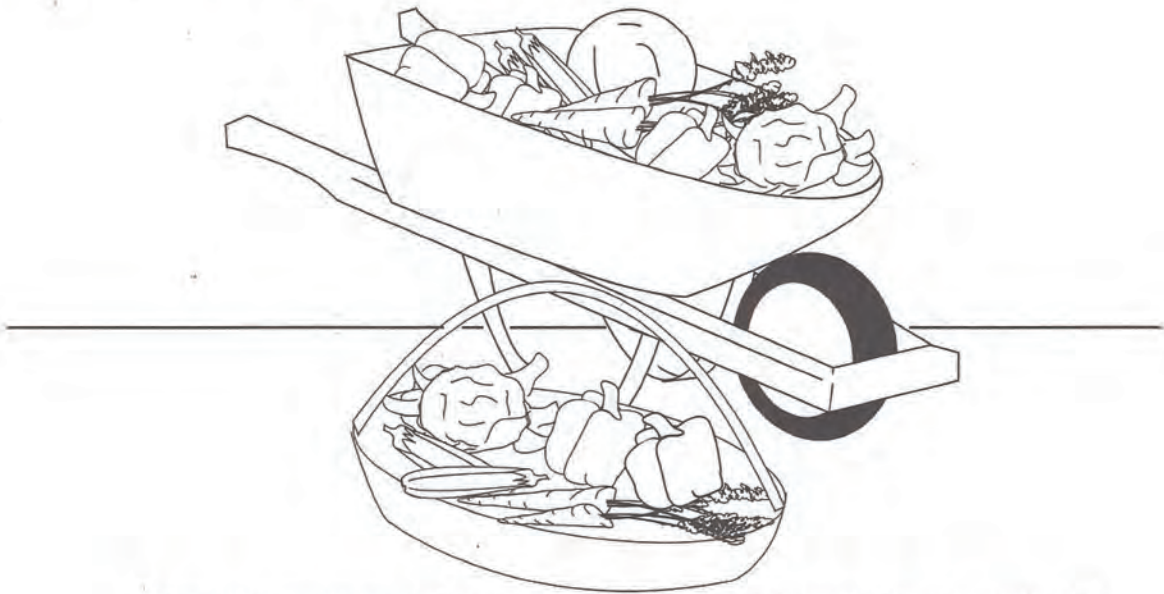
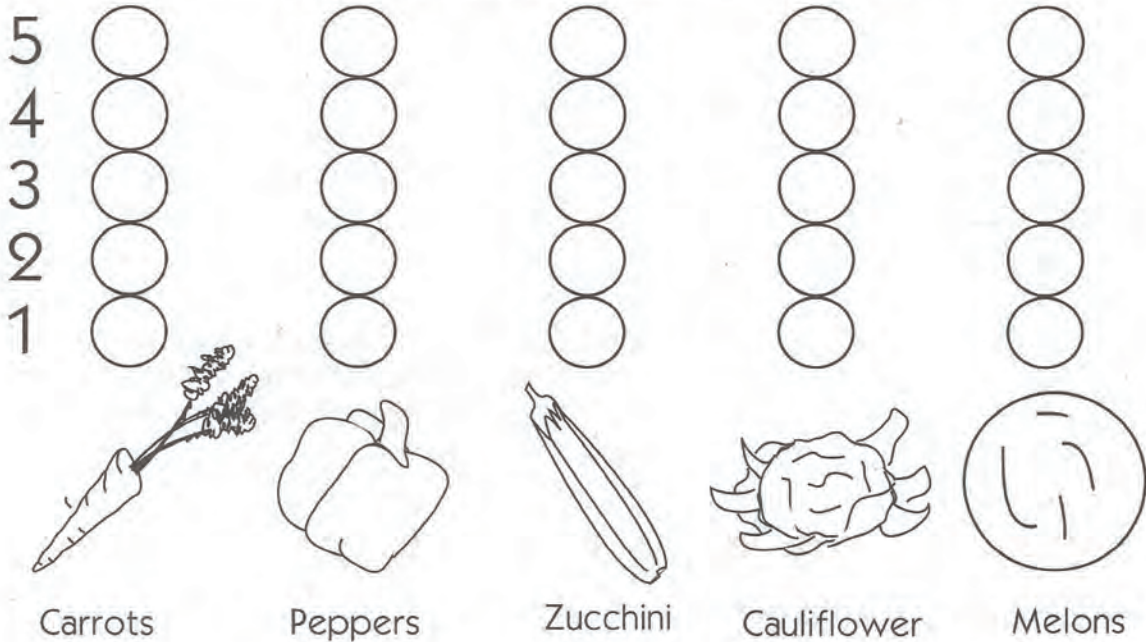


Chart how many of each vegetable the farmer has harvested.





# 1st August August September

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Apples, Apples, in a tree...  
Some for you and some for me!

Apples, Apples, what a treat...  
Some are tart and some are sweet!

Apples, Apples, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Apples, Apples, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Complete the poem to make it your own.

Those little apples of spring have grown into delicious and juicy gems. Early varieties like Paula Reds and Jerseymacs are ready for picking. Apples are harvested by hand, either by farmers or by families that want to pick their own.



McIntosh, Cortland, Gala... Honeycrisp, Spartan and Empire. When the nights turn cool, we're in the heart of apple season! Apples make delicious pies, sauce, butter, cider and more.

## Baked Apple

Core a whole apple and put it in a shallow pan.  
Fill the hole with a little brown sugar, cinnamon  
and raisins. Bake at 350 degrees until soft and bubbly.

### Microwave Directions:

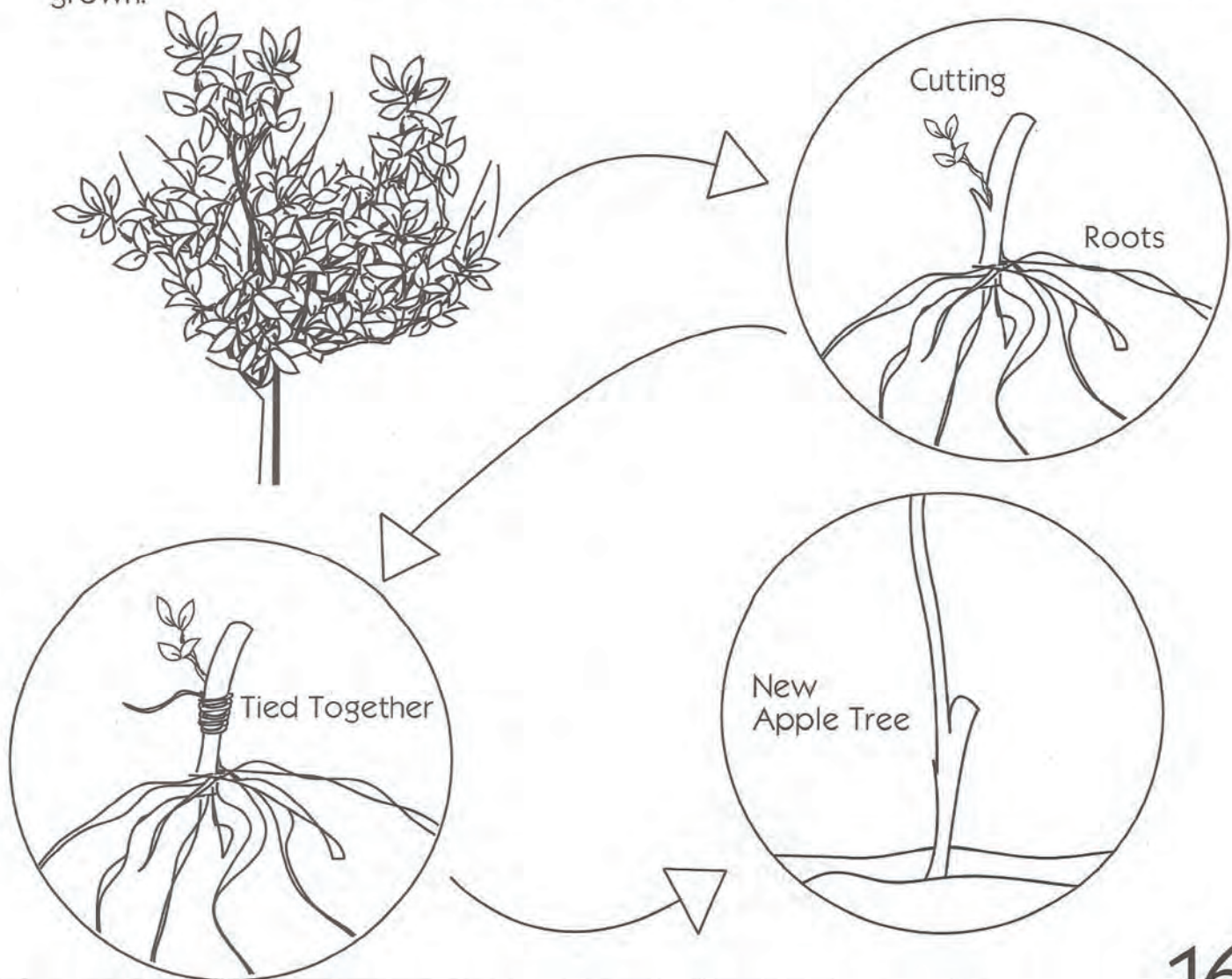
Put the apple in a microwave-safe dish.  
Cover with plastic wrap, pulling back one corner.  
Bake for 4 - 6 minutes on high.





It's Autumn, time to think ahead to the end of harvest. Farmers make notes of what worked well this year and also what didn't. Ideas of new seeds to plant or ways of doing things tumble through their minds.

When a farmer wants to plant a new apple tree, he or she doesn't go out and plant an apple seed. That's because each apple seed grows into a tree that is different from the parent trees that produced it. To produce a new apple tree, a branch or bud from the parent tree is pressed into a cut in the trunk of another tree. The two trees grow together becoming one tree that will produce apples just like the tree from which the branch or bud came. This process is called grafting and is how most apple trees are grown.








# ember October October Oct


Frost returns this time of year. To protect their vegetable plants, farmers use covers to keep the soil's warmth close to the ground. Garlic is planted now and pumpkins turn from green to orange.


Fill in the words from the list below to see what holiday everyone is waiting for.

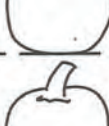
\_\_\_\_\_ Q \_\_\_\_\_ 


\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ S


\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ C


\_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_ 

\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 

\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ P \_\_\_\_\_ 

\_\_\_\_\_ 

Apples  
Beets  
Cauliflower  
Celery  
Garlic

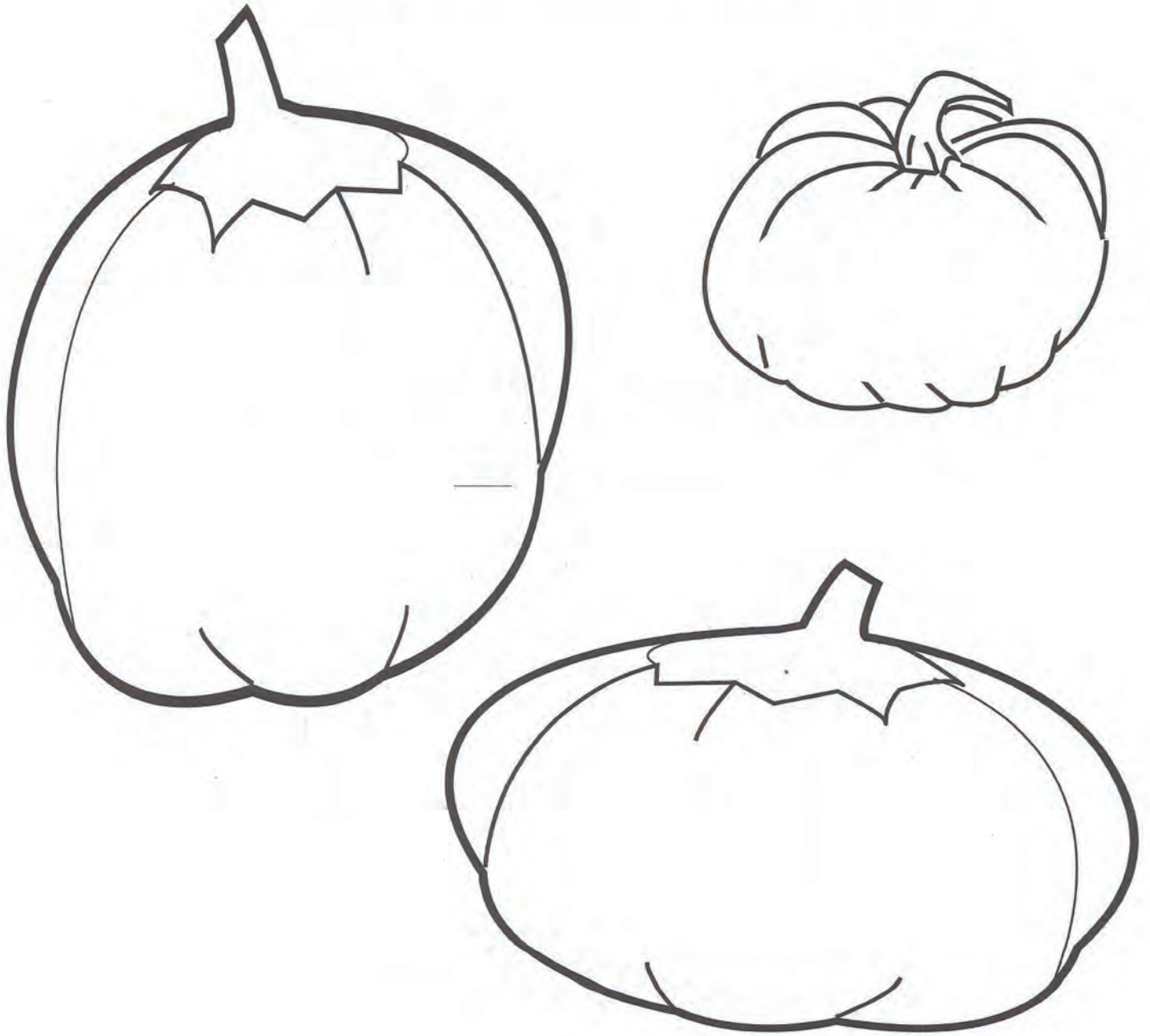
Potatoes  
Pumpkins  
Raspberries  
Squash



# ber October October Nover

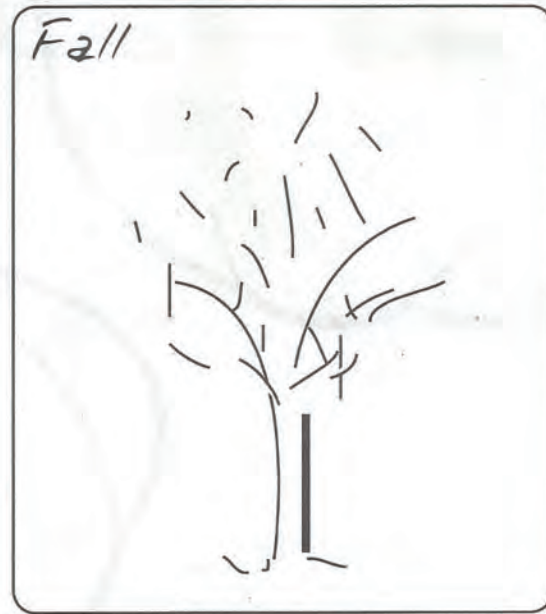
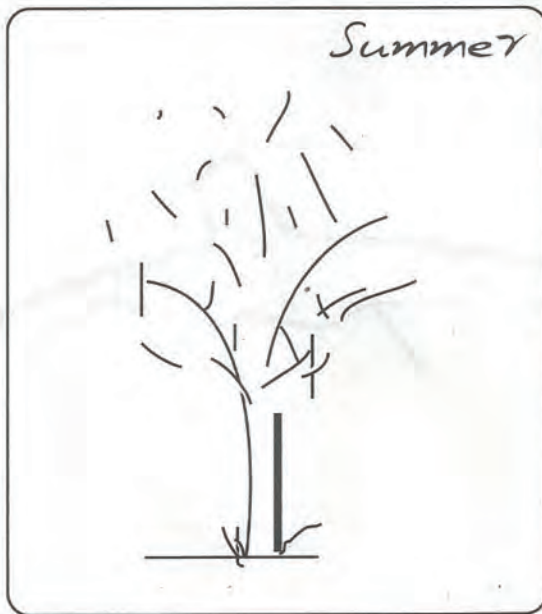
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Draw faces on the pumpkins and get them ready for Halloween!



October is pumpkin time! Pumpkins come in all different sizes and colors. Some are perfect for pies and cakes while others make great decorations and Jack-O-Lanterns.





Apple trees need all the seasons to produce apples.  
Draw what the apple tree looks like in each season.

Harvest is over. Fields and gardens need to be cleaned and fertilized for next year. Strawberry plants are mulched with straw to protect them from the cold and the last of the apples and fall produce are sold or stored.

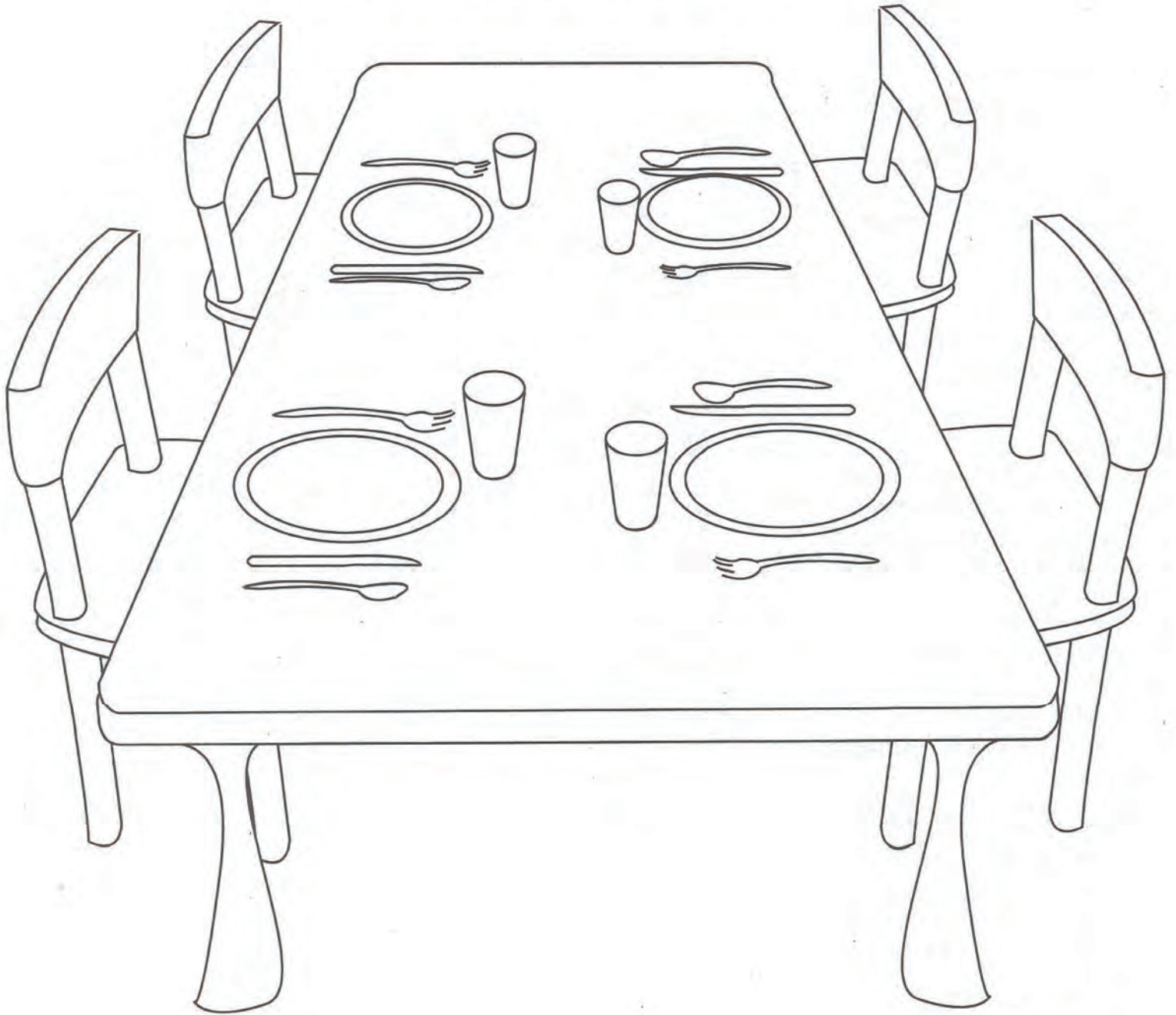


# November November Decer

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It's time to celebrate the bountiful harvest! Just like the Pilgrims and Indians did many years ago - we get together each November to celebrate Thanksgiving.

What are your favorite Thanksgiving foods?  
Draw them here on the dining table.





The year is drawing to a close. Equipment and tools are cleaned and stored for the winter. Farmers review their notes and make decisions about what to change for the coming year.

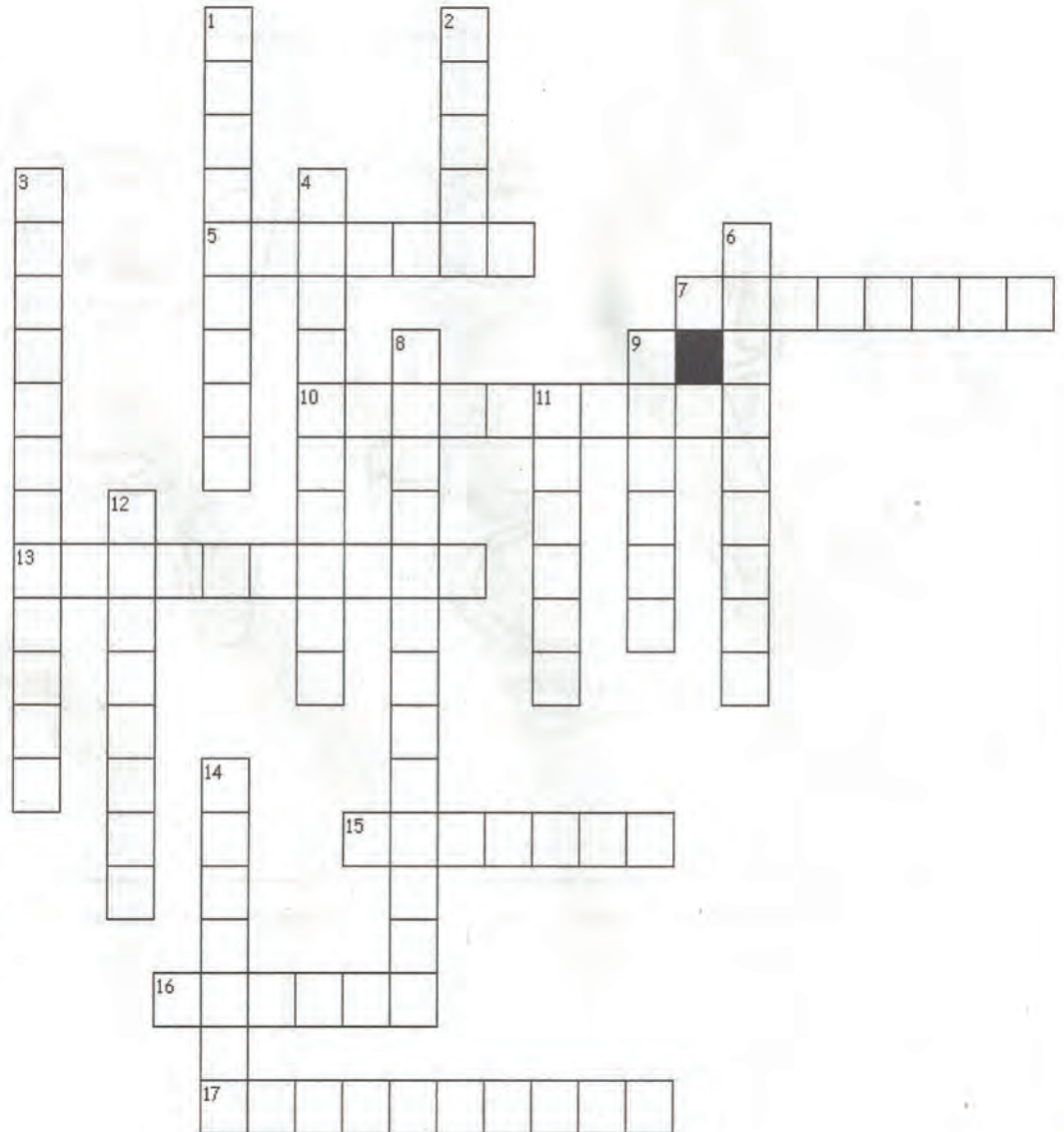
Find the answers to this crossword in what you've already read.

## Across

- 5. to pick produce from a garden or orchard
- 7. a small plant
- 10. to plant a seedling into a hoophouse
- 13. a method of watering plants
- 15. winter, spring, summer and fall
- 16. areas where crops are planted.
- 17. a heated place where seeds are started

## Down

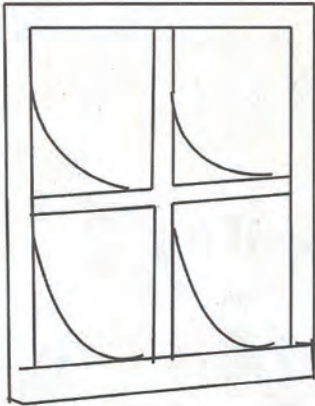
- 1. an unheated place where seedlings are transplanted
- 2. small strawberry plants
- 3. a holiday that celebrates the harvest
- 4. when farmers pay close attention to the temperature
- 6. to feed plants
- 8. what pumpkins become at Halloween
- 9. where produce is sold
- 11. what bees take from blossom to blossom
- 12. to create a new tree from part of another
- 14. a small part of a tree or plant





# December December Dec

What if you were a farmer?  
What would you grow on your farm and why?



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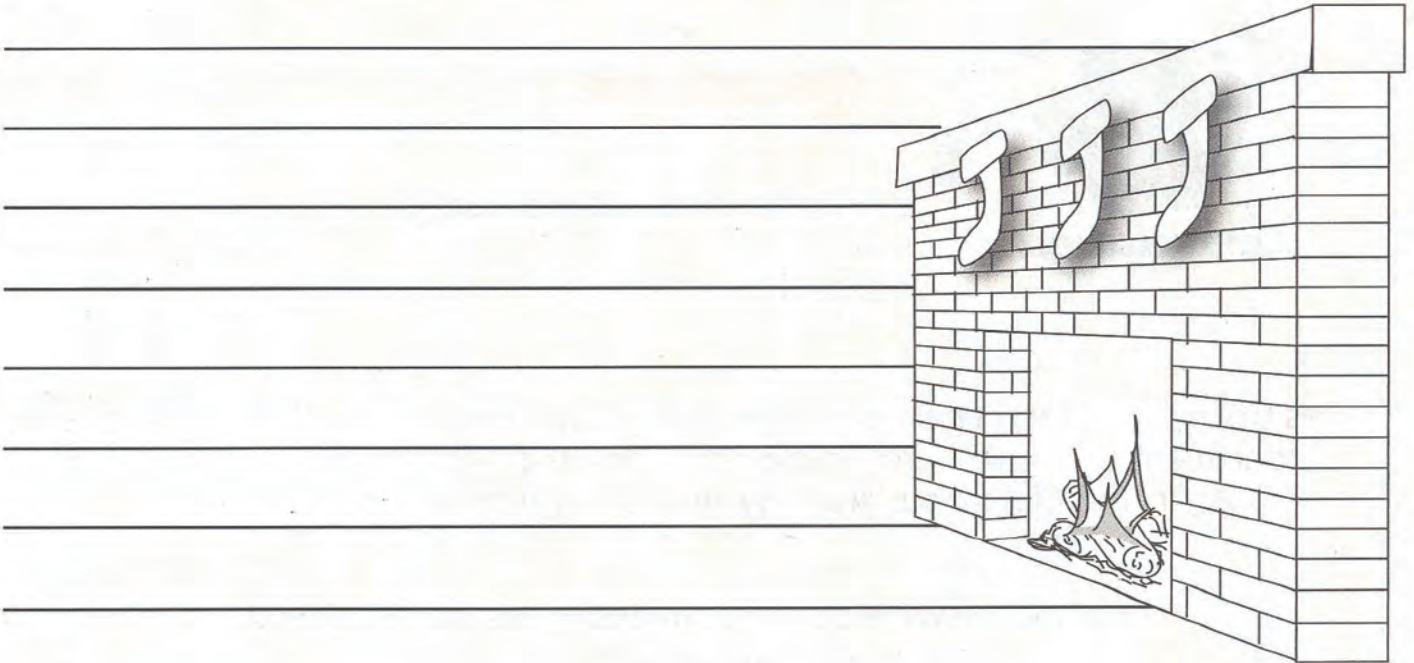
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Farmers relax and take time for family and friends.  
They've enjoyed the harvest and hope you have too!





Wisconsin Fresh Market Vegetable  
Growers Association

[www.wisconsinfreshproduce.org](http://www.wisconsinfreshproduce.org)

Wisconsin Apple Growers Association

[www.waga.org](http://www.waga.org)



Wisconsin Berry Growers Association

[www.wiberries.org](http://www.wiberries.org)

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For the answers to the activities in this book, please refer to one of the websites above.

Anna Maenner, Author  
Bradley Maenner, Illustrator

211 Canal Rd.  
Waterloo, WI 53594  
920.478.3852