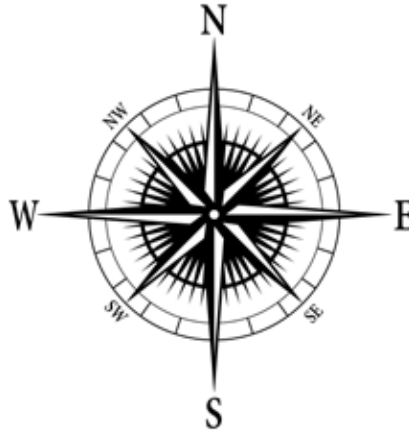


CORN-DINAL DIRECTIONS



Farmer John is explaining to Mr. Chadwick's 3rd grade class about his farm. One of the students asked why some farmers irrigate their farms. John explained that some farmers live in areas that don't receive much rainfall but have access to water underground. Farmers irrigate their crops with this water in seasons of little to no rain. This helps the farmer harvest the best possible yield. Farmer John explained how he and other farmers who irrigate check soil moisture in their fields. This allows farmers to know when and where not to irrigate. This saves water while also growing the best crop they can.

This summer, he was very worried about his crops. If corn has too many days without water, they may become stressed. This can lead to less kernels in each cob of corn. So, he set out to check the soil at random locations on his farm. First, he headed south and checked the moisture around the third plant he came across. It was dry. Next, he headed east and checked the moisture around the fifth plant's soil. Again, dry. He headed northeast two plants and found some soil with some moisture. Then, he headed south four plants to check on a different area. It also had some moisture in the soil. He finished by heading to his last spot by going six plants to the west. Again, he found moisture in the field. Based on his findings, he determined how much water the corn plants needed at that time.