

The Mystery of Corn

Mystery #2

The History of Corn



WORDS TO LEARN

Observe
Kernels
Ear
Fuel



The History of Corn

Corn began as the teosinte plant thousands of years ago.



Today, tall cornstalks have large ears with lots of kernels.



There are many types of corn.



Farmers have grown and improved corn for thousands of years.

Let's learn about four types of corn. See if you can spot the differences. Turn the page to take on the challenge!

KANSAS CORN
STEM

Mystery of Corn K-1 Reader | Mystery #2

OBSERVE AND SHARE

Look at these four types of corn and **observe** the differences.
What do you notice that is different about each type of corn?
What is the same about each type of corn?

CORN



OBSERVE!

? Shape
? Color
? Texture
? size
?



FUN HISTORY FACT

9,000 years ago, farmers in Mexico began to grow and improve a grassy plant called teosinte. Over thousands of years, the plant developed into what we call corn today!



TYPES OF CORN

DENT CORN



The color of the **kernels** is dark yellow.

The kernels on the **ear** are dry and hard.

There is a dent on the top of the kernel.

It is used for livestock feed, **fuel**, food and other uses.



SWEET CORN



The color of the kernels is yellow or white or both.

The kernels on the ear are soft and easy to eat.

It tastes sweet and is juicy.

It is used for people to eat.



FLINT CORN



The kernels can be many different colors.

The kernels on the ear have a hard shell.

It is also known as Indian Corn.

It is used for fall decorations and is used for food.



POPCORN



The color of the kernels is a deep yellow color.

The kernels are on a small ear and are dry and hard.

The kernels pop when heated.

It is used for a snack food.



Do You Remember?

MATCH THE CORN

Draw a line from the type of corn to the picture of how that corn is used. Use the inside of the magazine to help if you get stuck.



Farmer Bill Video

Types of Corn

Is all corn the same? Learn with Farmer Bill and see why all corn is not the same. He will show the differences between four types of corn.



The Mystery of Corn reader series is provided by:



kansascornstem.com

What is your favorite?

What is your favorite type of corn? Write it on the line below. Then, draw a picture of your favorite type of corn.

My favorite type of corn is:

— — — — —
Draw a picture of your favorite type of corn!

