

Corn Is Amazing!

PRESCHOOL & EARLY LEARNERS | AGES 3–6 | READ-ALoud FACT SHEET

Wisconsin is a place where a LOT of corn grows. Here are big, simple facts to share out loud.

SAY IT WITH ME

- **A corn seed is called a kernel.** It is smaller than your fingernail.
- **Corn grows TALL.** Taller than a grown-up — about as tall as a basketball hoop.
- **Corn grows in a field.** Fields have long, straight rows, like lines on a page.
- **One ear of corn has about 800 kernels.** That is a lot of counting!
- **Corn has silk.** The soft, stringy hair on top of an ear of corn is called silk.
- **Farmers plant in spring and pick in fall.** Corn goes in the ground when it gets warm and comes out when leaves change color.

WORDS TO KNOW

kernel • ear • stalk • husk • silk • field • farmer • tractor • harvest

WHERE CORN GOES

FOOD

Cows eat corn.
Cows make milk.
Milk makes cheese, yogurt, and ice cream!

FIBER

Corn helps make everyday things — even crayons, glue, and some plastic cups.

FUEL

Corn can be made into fuel for cars.
Some gas at the gas station is made from corn!

TRY THIS TOGETHER

COUNT IT: Count the rows of kernels on a real ear of corn. Most ears have 16 rows — and always an even number!

MOVE IT: Stand tall like a corn stalk. Wiggle your fingers on top like corn silk blowing in the wind.

FEEL IT: Pass around dry corn kernels, a husk, and corn silk. Which one is smooth? Rough? Soft?

SORT IT: Put out a milk carton, a toy car, and a crayon. Corn helped make all three. Can they guess how?

A WISCONSIN FACT FOR GROWN-UPS

Wisconsin farmers grew about 605 million bushels of corn in 2025 — a record year. Most of it feeds animals or becomes fuel. Only a small share is the sweet corn we eat off the cob.