Display Kit
Setup Guide
Corn Field

Adapted from American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture My American Farm Guide
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The Need

Fairs and events provide incredible opportunities to connect your community to agriculture. But building a professional agricultural literacy display can be daunting!

This kit is useful and engaging in various settings to engage and cultivate conversations about agriculture in Nebraska with Pre-K through adult learners.

The Concept

1. Learners are drawn to the life size banners.
2. They grab a Pick-Up Card near the banner that fits their knowledge level.
3. Each number on the Pick-Up Card corresponds to a number on the banner. The color corresponds to the level!
4. Learners read the challenge on their Pick-Up Card and look for the corresponding number on the banner.
5. Learners solve the challenge and write their answer on the Pick-Up Card.
6. Volunteer discusses answers with learner.

Strategies for Use

Intentional Engagement

Whether you work in agriculture, teach, are engaged in planning fairs and events, or simply have a passion for connecting people to where their food comes from – *My American Farm* is a great way to create a professional, engaging learning area. Check out the strategies below to start engaging your community today!

- Encourage a local school to set up a mobile museum with the banner in a central learning area. You can use the hands-on activities to create a unique engagement.
- Sponsor a community or school visit day at your place of work. Set up the banner to provide an engaging learning experience.
- Sponsor a breakfast or lunch with a farmer. Set up the display banners to engage guests.
- Set up an Agriculture Literacy Zone at your County Fair with the banner.
WHAT’S INCLUDED?

Display Banner
- Banner is 15’W x 7.4’H

Corn Field Banner

Pick-Up Cards
Pick-Up Cards are split by knowledge level to offer interactive questions for each banner. There are three levels of the Pick-Up Cards and 100 cardstock copies will be provided in the kit. If you need more copies, Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation can print each additional copy for $0.15 each.
- Beginner
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Corn A-Z Poster & Easel
Preparing for the Event
- Review the set-up instructions for the banner on page 9.
- Review the Hands-On Learning Activities on pages blank – blank of this guide to determine which to include at your event.
- Gather necessary supplies.
- Print instructions for activities.

At the Event
- Set up your display banner.
- Determine the best place to house the Pick-Up Activity Cards and writing utensils. We recommend using open top folders with index cards on the front labeling each age group’s Pick-Up Activity Cards.
- Set up hands-on activities.

Hands-On Activities
Learning becomes more engaging with hands-on activities. Choose from several activities outlined for the banner to add a new dimension of engagement to your learning area.

Modifications
- You may wish to laminate copies of the learning cards that can be reused with dry erase pens.
- You may wish to have one copy of each Pick-Up Card. Have learners choose their level from the display and find the number on the banner. Have them report the answer back to the volunteer.
**Introduction**

Learners are drawn to the life size banners.

- Hi, my name is......
- Ask the learner, “Where is most of the corn grown in the United States?” Take a moment for a response and reply:
  - The Corn Belt is a region in the United States where corn is the main crop grown. Iowa and Illinois are the top corn-producing states, while Nebraska ranks third in corn production.

**How to Play**

- This banner has questions all about corn. Grab a Pick-Up Card. Each card has a knowledge level on it; select the card that best addresses your knowledge.
- Each number on the Pick-Up Card corresponds to a number on the banner. The color corresponds to the level!
- Read the challenge on the Pick-Up Card and look for the corresponding number on the banner.
- Solve the challenge and write the answer on the Pick-Up Card.

**Closing Statement**

- Corn is a crop used for human consumption, livestock feed, and a wide range of industrial products, including bioplastics.
- Nebraska corn farmers really know how to grow corn – and plenty of it.
**Water a Corn Plant**

- **Supplies**
  - Liquid measuring cups
  - Two buckets: One filled with water, one empty
- **Set Up**
  - Fill bucket with water and place empty bucket next to the full bucket.
- **Experience**
  - Use measuring cups to measure the amount of water a corn plant needs (4.5 cups) into the empty bucket.

**Take a Guess**

- **Supplies**
  - Ear of corn
  - Card that says, “How many kernels do you think are on this ear of corn?”
  - Folded card with the answer to the number of kernels on the ear written inside
- **Set Up**
  - Place ear of corn and cards next to each other.
- **Experience**
  - First, show the attendee what a kernel is on an ear of corn. Then, ask attendees how many kernels they think are on each ear of corn. Have them open the card after they have guessed to find the correct answer.

**Cornhusker Necklace**

- **Supplies**
  - Untreated, clean corn seeds
  - Cup of water
  - Cotton Balls
  - Jewelry Bag
  - Red Yarn
- **Set Up**
  - Place seeds, cup of water, cotton balls, and necklaces on table.
- **Experience**
  - Plant a seed in a mini Ziploc bag and after a few days the necklace will be alive with growing sprouts – baby plants – for learners to observe.

[Lesson Plan]
What Products Have Corn in Them?

- **Supplies**
  - Toothpaste
  - Soda
  - Gum
  - Sign that says, “Which of these products have corn in them?”
  - Corn A to Z Poster
- **Set Up**
  - Place each of these items on the table with the sign.
- **Experience**
  - Ask attendees which of these everyday items are made from corn.
  (Answer is all of them)

How Do You Measure Up?

- **Supplies**
  - Corn Stalk
  - Measuring Tape
- **Set Up**
  - Prop up corn stalk and have a measuring tape placed next to the corn stalk.
- **Experience**
  - Have one attendee stand next to corn stalk, while the volunteer measures them with tape measure. Read tape measure to determine height.

Corn Display

- **Supplies**
  - Field Corn
  - Sweet Corn
  - Popcorn
  - White Corn
  - Specialty Corn
  - Signs with each of the corn names on it.
- **Set Up**
  - Lay each type of the corn on the table (as either a kernel or cob).
- **Experience**
  - Showcase the corn Nebraskan’s grow and discuss the different uses of each corn with the learner.
RPL SET UP INSTRUCTIONS

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6.