EXPLORING

ARIZONA GROWN AGRICULTURE

This project is produced by the Arizona Farm Bureau Federation as an educational outreach to our children and community. Photocopying is allowed or copies may be downloaded from the Farm Bureau website: www.azfb.org No permission necessary.

3401 E. Elwood Street, Phoenix, AZ 85040
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Agriculture is important to Arizona. Farming today is not like Old McDonald’s farm. Farms and ranches are businesses run by families!

Farmers and ranchers grow plants and animals. These plants and animals give you food to eat and fiber to make your clothes.

Not all farmers grow the same crops. Farmers in Arizona grow almost 100 different crops. Ranchers raise cattle and sheep on almost 24 million acres of Arizona rangelands.

To help you learn more about Arizona farming and ranching, do the activities, color the pictures and print the words in this book.

Note to Parents: This activity coloring book was designed to show the basics of Arizona agriculture. Please help your child understand that farming produces our food, fiber, ornamental plants and many other products we need and use daily.

This project was paid for, in part, by a grant from the Arizona Department of Agriculture’s Office of Marketing and Outreach. Funds were made available to the ADA by congressional appropriation pursuant to PL 107-25.
This farmer is planting seeds in the soil on her farm. Seeds grow to be plants like vegetables, grain and grass. Trees that grow fruit also grow in the soil. We eat the vegetables, grain and fruit. Animals also eat the grass and grain so we can have meat, dairy products and eggs.

Read the words below. Then print the words.

soil  seeds
An acre is a way to measure land. One acre is about the size of a football field.

A farmer can grow 9,000 pounds of oranges on one acre.

One acre can grow enough cotton to make 838 pairs of jeans.

On one acre, a farmer can grow 42,500 pounds of watermelons.

An acre can grow enough potatoes to make 9,000 - 12 ounce bags of potato chips.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

acre
Delicious fruits and nuts grow on trees on Arizona farms. Match the name of the tree with the fruit it produces.

An apple tree produces __________.

An orange tree produces __________.

A pecan tree produces __________.

A lemon tree produces __________.

A peach tree produces __________.

A pistachio tree produces __________.

A date palm tree produces __________.

A cherry tree produces __________.

Read the words below. Then print the words.

trees

nuts
Everything we eat that has seeds is a fruit. These crops grown in Arizona are all fruits, but they do not grow on trees! Circle the fruits that are sometimes called vegetables.

- Chili peppers
- Bell pepper
- Cucumber
- Watermelon
- Tomato
- Pumpkin
- Grapes

Read the word below. Then print the word.

fruit
Read each riddle. Write its answer.

1. I am a leaf.
   I am green.
   Put me in a salad.

2. I am orange.
   I am a root.
   Rabbits like to eat me.

3. I am dark green.
   I am a leaf.
   I will help you get strong.

4. I am green.
   I am a flower.
   People melt cheese on me.

5. I am a root.
   I am red.
   Try me in a salad, too.

6. I have a thin paper covering.
   I make you cry when
   I am peeled or cut.

7. I am a crunchy stem.
   Try me with peanut butter.

8. I am green.
   I am a tall, slender stem.
   I have tiny scales at my top
   and along my sides.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

vegetables
An agriculture commodity is something grown on a farm or a ranch. Milk, oranges, beef and cotton are agriculture commodities. This map shows all the major commodities grown in Arizona’s 15 counties. There are 7,500 farms in our state.

Source: 2001 Arizona Agricultural Statistics Bulletin
www.nass.usda.gov/az/
Arizona Agriculture Facts

Agriculture generates $6.3 billion for Arizona’s economy every year.

Crops grow on more than 1 million acres in Arizona. Ranches cover almost 24 million acres.

Because Arizona gets very little rainfall, farmers must irrigate their crops.

Arizona nurseries grow plants adapted to our desert environment that reduce water use in landscapes.

Arizona grows 170 oranges for every Arizona resident each year.

Yuma is called the “Winter Lettuce Capitol of the World” because most of the lettuce sold in the United States in the winter is grown near Yuma.

Arizona grows enough grapefruit to provide every American child 1/2 grapefruit on any given day.

Arizona farmers grow enough cotton every year to make more than one pair of jeans for every person in the United States.

Arizona agriculture produces 60 eggs for every Arizonan each year.

Arizona ranchers produce enough beef for every Arizonan to have a 1/4 pound burger 300 days a year.

Arizona farmers grow enough broccoli for every Arizonan to have one serving.
Many Arizona farmers grow grain and corn in their fields. Some grains grown in Arizona include durum wheat, barley and oats. Some of the grain and corn is ground to be flour. The flour is made into foods like spaghetti, bread, tortillas and cereal.

What food do you like the best? Color the plate or bowl underneath it red, then draw a line to the cereal or flour it was made from. Draw another line to the plant it came from.

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Read the word below. Then print the word.

grains
Some grain and corn is used to feed cows, pigs, sheep, goats, ostrich, turkeys and chickens. Animals eat grass, hay and other things people don’t normally eat. These animals provide meat, eggs and milk.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

animals
A dairy cow gives enough milk to furnish 9 families of four with 2 glasses of milk every day. In order for a dairy cow to make this much milk, she may eat nearly 100 pounds of food, and drink about a bathtub full of water (30-35 gallons) every day.

How many glasses of milk do you drink per day?

_______

Dairy cows give us these products. Fill in the vowels to name the foods.

ch___s___

b____r

cr____m

___ce

m___lk

y__g__rt

Read the word below. Then print the word.

dairy
Arizona farmers grow chickens to give us meat and eggs to eat. A hen lays one egg a day.

Count by twos to help the hen get to her nest. Draw a line to connect the path.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

eggs
Raw materials that come from plants and animals grown and raised in Arizona are used to make clothing. Leather from cows is used to make many things we wear. Wool from sheep is spun into yarn. Yarn is woven into things like mittens, sweaters, scarves, blankets and other items that keep us warm. Cotton fiber is used to make jeans, socks, towels, T-shirts and other clothes.

Unscramble the words below to find things that are made from products grown in Arizona.

tobso

solgev

treewas

ersup

tebl

einktab

hrtsiT

Read the word below. Then print the word.
clothing
Arizona farmers grow plants for people’s homes and gardens. A greenhouse provides even temperatures and protection that plants need to grow all year long. Plants, shrubs and trees beautify our world and help the earth by cleaning the air we breathe.

Use your favorite crayon to color this flower.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

plants
DIRECTIONS:
Use buttons for markers. Start at the farmer’s office. To move, flip a coin. Heads, move button one space; tails, move button two spaces.

The FARMING GAME

Everybody eats, everybody wins!
One tractor can cost as much as 5 new cars.

Connect the Dots

Start with the number one and connect the dots to make a drawing of the most important machine used on the farm.

Read the word below. Then print the word.

tractor
Here are a few of the many jobs you can have in agriculture.

Scientist  Farmer  Cowboy
Truck Driver  Veterinarian  Chef

Read the word below. Then print the word.

jobs
Draw and color a picture about what you have learned about Arizona agriculture.
Send it in to win a prize! See back cover for details.
ARIZONA AGRICULTURE COLORING CONTEST

Contest is open to all Arizona children ages 5-9.

Please submit entries by December 31, 2003. Winners will be notified by February 16, 2004.

All entries should be sent to:

Coloring Contest
Arizona Farm Bureau Federation
3401 E. Elwood Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85040

Please type or print clearly:

Name: ________________________________ Age: __________

Address: ________________________________

City, State, Zip Code: ____________________________

Phone number (optional): ____________________________

Parent name: ______________________________

ENTRY FORM

Thanks to the Arizona Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Leadership Committee who worked to bring this activity/coloring book to the children of Arizona to help educate them about agriculture.