

Hello, there! I'm Free Range. I love to go on adventures, and I am very curious about teeth because chickens don't have any! Come with me as I visit farms across the country. You'll meet some of my cool friends, and you will learn how to keep your smile strong.

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I'm Sugar Snap!

Vegetables like

me grow up on farms. And we're an important part of a healthy diet!

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It takes a lot of hard work to keep a farm running. By comparison, it makes brushing and flossing seem pretty simple! Let's check out what's needed for a healthy farm and a healthy smile.

For a healthy farm:



Till and fertilize the soil.



Wash laundry and fold clothes.



Plant and water the crops.



Clean the barn and maintain farm tools.



Feed and water the animals.



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Visit your dentist regularly for checkups and cleanings.



Replace your toothbrush every three months or earlier if it starts to fray.

For a healthy smile:



Brush twice a day, for two minutes each time, and floss daily.



Wear a mouth guard when you play sports and other physical activities.



Use fluoride toothpaste and a soft-bristled toothbrush.



Stay hydrated. Water is great for you and helps keep your mouth clean!

How many teeth have you lost?

Use this page to keep track of every tooth you lose. All you need to do is color in each tooth as you lose them! You can also mark your age and where you were when it fell out.



Match game: Who grows the most?

The United States is a big country with 2 million farms spread across all 50 states. We make a lot of food! Can you match each state to their most produced crop? Let's find out.





The vitamin A in peaches is great for healthy eyes.





Cheese

The calcium in dairy is good for your teeth and bones. And this state produces over 3 billion pounds of cheese each year.



Sweet potatoes These are packed with potassium, which helps your body absorb calcium. This leads to stronger teeth and bones.



Peanuts This protein-packed snack helps your muscles recover from activity and grow stronger.



Beef The B vitamins in beef can benefit your brain.



The fiber in apples helps you digest food. And because they are crunchy, they cause your mouth to make more saliva. This washes down food and helps keep your mouth clean.



Whole-grain rice gives you vitamins and minerals that boost your energy.

Fascinating facts about animal teeth

Not all animals have the same teeth. In fact, there can be big differences from one to another!



Hi, I'm Marley! I was born with sharp baby teeth known as "needle teeth." My adult teeth won't be as sharp, but they will be much stronger. Either way, don't get between me and my next meal!

Chickens like me don't have teeth — I actually chew food inside my own stomach! Here's how it works: I gobble food down without chewing, and then an extra part in my stomach called a "gizzard" helps break the food down. Sometimes I even eat rocks and gravel to help break up food faster. I'm Daisy! My fellow cows and I are known for our sideways chewing motion — you might even be able to imagine it. But there's a reason we chew that way. It's because we don't have any top front teeth! Instead, we rub grasses and plants against a hard layer of flesh called a "dental pad" to break down food.

My name is Elmer. I have baby teeth and adult teeth, just like you! But there's one big difference — because I'm a horse, my adult teeth never stop growing! But they do get worn down when I eat, so my teeth won't grow too big.

Human teeth are neat, too. Your teeth are sharp in front to bite and tear foods, with wider teeth in the back that help you chew.



Farm fresh breakfast Why not give your next breakfast a friendly face? With our recipe below, you'll find a very happy - and very healthy - way to start your day. HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED • For the eyebrows: red bell pepper slices • For the nose: a grape or other small • For the hair and beard (optional): piece of fruit bell pepper, lettuce, or spinach • For the eyes: two eggs cooked sunny • For the smile: two precooked slices side up of turkey bacon HERE'S HOW TO MAKE IT Ask an adult to help you slice the bell pepper, cook the eggs and warm the bacon, and put the eggs on a plate. Create your own friendly breakfast face on your plate with the remaining ingredients. **Bell peppers** HIGHLIGHTS are packed with vitamin C for healthy gums. Eggs have protein to support muscle growth. НЕАLTHY Turkey bacon has less fat than pork bacon and also gives you protein. Leafy green vegetables like spinach provide calcium for stronger teeth and bones.

Image search: let's visit the farmers market

Farmers markets are a great way to connect with your community. They draw a big crowd because they offer something for everyone! During a walk through the market, you can find excited puppies, babies in strollers, fresh fruits and vegetables, delicious snacks, and a whole lot more.

The list below includes things you would find at a typical farmers market, plus hidden oral health care items that help protect your smile. See how many you can find as you color in the image! You can cross out words on the list as you find them.







Farming isn't just for wide-open fields. In fact, some foods can be grown almost anywhere! "Urban gardening" is a term for when people grow fruits, vegetables, and plants in a city environment instead of on a farm.

What does an urban garden need?

Your garden will be unique based on where you build it and what you grow. But no matter what, it will need:



Sunlight Great places to start a garden are apartment rooftops or near windows that let in a lot of sunshine.

Soil A grown-up can help you research how much soil you need for what you want to grow!



Water Make a plan so you remember to water your plants! Otherwise, they won't survive.

What can I grow in an urban garden?

All sorts of foods! These are just a few examples of what you could grow and how it helps you:



Black beans are great for your heart, stomach, muscles, and more!



Squash is rich in calcium for strong teeth and bones.



Garlic can help you fight tooth decay. It can also cause bad breath, so don't forget to brush!



Spinach offers vitamin E, which is great for healthy eyes.



Sugar snap peas

That's me! I give you iron and vitamin K for healthy blood, teeth, and bones.



Grow a pineapple from a pineapple

It's crazy but true — you can use a pineapple to grow another pineapple! It's easy to do at home if you have a little space and a lot of patience.



- 3 Twist the leaves and pull to remove the crown of the pineapple. (You may need an adult to help with this step. If the crown does not twist off, ask an adult to cut the top off for you.)
- 4 Place the pineapple crown upside down in your kitchen until it is fully dry. This can take up to a full week!
- 5 Put the now-dry stem in a jar of warm, clean water, with only the bottom submerged. (The leaves should be facing up.)
- 6 Over the next few weeks, watch as new roots begin to grow from the stem!

- 1 Fill the 6-inch pot with well-draining soil.
- 2 Plant the pineapple crown. The roots should be below the soil and the pineapple leaves should be above.
- 3 Place your pineapple plant in indirect sunlight for two to three weeks and water it once a week.
- 4 Move the plant into direct sunlight and continue to water it once a week.
- 5 Wait for the pineapple to grow! This will be done in about two to three years. (That's where the patience comes in.)

The pros and cons of pineapple

Pineapple is high in vitamin C, which is good for your oral and overall health. But it's also acidic and can harm your teeth. That's because it can weaken your tooth enamel, which is the hard outside layer of each tooth. When you eat pineapple, drink water to wash away the acid.



Fresh fruits and vegetables, here we come

Let's take a quick look at how food gets all the way from a farmer's field to your dinner plate.





Crops are harvested.

Smaller farms may harvest crops by having people walk the fields and pick the food. Bigger farms might use artificial intelligence (AI), which is a very smart computer program, to control the heavy machines that do the picking for them.



Water, water, everywhere!

After running, playing, and working outside, nothing beats a tall glass of ice-cold water. Sip, sip, aah! But drinking water is more than just refreshing. It helps keep you — and a farm — healthy and productive.

Water is the healthy choice.

Drinking water instead of juice or soda helps you avoid extra sugar and it is great for your health. Being hydrated:



Puts you in a better mood.



Gives you more energy.



Can help prevent headaches.

Cheers! Water is great for your smile.

Choosing water also keeps your smile strong. That's because water:



Prevents dry mouth and bad breath.



Is sugar free and may have fluoride to help prevent cavities.



Washes down food (that means less bacteria in your mouth).

Crops and farm animals love water, too. Fresh water helps almost every part of a farm:



Rainfall nourishes plants and soil.



Watering systems help crops grow healthy and strong.



Animals need to stay hydrated to thrive and survive, just like you.

Mad lib: wild day on the farm

From the rooster's morning wake-up call until it's time to hit the hay, a day on the farm can be wild. You never know what might happen! Fill out this mad lib (be as silly as you'd like!) to create your own unique day on the farm.

When I woke up and brushed my teeth this morning, I felt very That's because I'm going	
to work at Farm!	
It will be so much fun. They haves and they also grow healthy foods likes ands ands!	
To do my job right, I'll need the right tools. So, I go to the big barn and grab my and	
I was about to leave the barn when a came out of nowhere! It made noise and smelled like	'S
"Hey,!" I shouted. "Get back here!"	
I started to run after her. But that's when I noticed astole mystole my	
I chased the animal for hours until I distracted it by singing	
Then I got my clothes back — but the sun was already setting! As I brushed and flossed before bed, I knew I'd have another fun day tomorrow.	
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CRAFT CORNER

The art of origami

Did you know there are over 9 million dairy cows in the United States? That's a whole lot of milk! And milk is great for you - it has calcium for strong teeth and bones, vitamin A for healthy eyes, and protein to help your muscles grow.

Let's use origami, or the art of paper folding, to make our own cow face. Every time you look at it, you will remember how milk boosts your health!

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED • A square piece of paper to fold

• Optional: colored pencils, markers, or crayons to draw on your cow

HERE'S HOW TO MAKE IT



Fold the square into a triangle by connecting two opposite corners.



Fold the bottom corner up.



Fold the tip of the same corner back down, so the point is facing down.



Flip the paper over.



Flip the paper over.



Fold the corners in toward the middle, so that the edges touch one another.



Fold the upper corners down to create the cow's ears.



Draw the eyes, nose, and spots on your cow!

Black and white spotted cows are called Holstein cows. But not all cows have spots! They can also be brown, white, red, or other colors.

Would you rather: farm life edition

It's imagination time! Find a friend or family member and ask each other these questions. You'll learn more about each other and about yourself as you talk about what your answer would be and why.





Let's look at some old and new equipment that farmers and dentists use to do their job.

FARMING EQUIPMENT

Tractors

From the earliest tractors in the mid-1800s to modern tractors that use computers, this classic farm vehicle has helped farmers produce more food, generation after generation.



DENTAL EQUIPMENT Dental braces

Like tractors, braces have been around for a long time. The first wire braces were invented in 1819! Braces have also gotten better over time. Today, they are more comfortable, easier to care for, and come in a variety of colors.





DENTAL EQUIPMENT Mouth guards

A mouth guard can protect you from many oral health risks. Wear one when you play sports or other physical activities. It will shield your teeth and gums, stop you from biting your tongue, and more.



FARMING EQUIPMENT

FARMING EQUIPMENT

Agricultural netting

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Farmers may use netting to protect plants and crops from

heat, harsh weather, and hungry animals. It's a simple

technology with many practical uses!

Drones

Modern farmers can use flying drones to do all sorts of things. They can check on their animals and crops, collect water or soil samples, and map their fields.



DENTAL EQUIPMENT

Artificial intelligence (AI) and virtual reality Your dentist's office also uses advanced technology. For example, virtual reality programs can help with training, and AI can be used to schedule visits. It's like living in the future!



