

Different Types of Corn and Their Uses

Learning Objectives:

- The students will learn about different types of corn, and be able to name 3 different kinds.
- Discover the difference between popcorn, sweet corn and field corn; be able to explain the what each kind is used for.
- Be able to draw each type of corn and explain differences between each one.

Types of Corn Variety

- Although corn has around 6 different corn kernel varieties **flint, flour, dent, pop, sweet, and waxy**. Today we will be talking about the most popular types grown in the United States.
- Popcorn
- Field corn



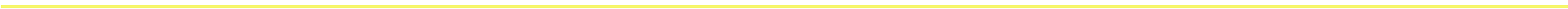
Sweet Corn



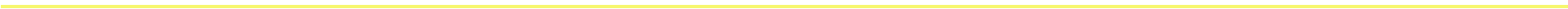
Sweet Corn

- Sweet corn is the kind of corn you buy at the grocery store to eat. You can eat it off the ear (corn-on-the-cob). You can also buy it in cans or in the frozen food aisle. Fresh sweet corn is found most often during the summer and is sweet and juicy.
- Sweet corn is usually a light yellow color.
- Sweet corn has many varieties. One of the most common in the south is Peaches and Cream Sweet Corn. It has is a bicolor hybrid with white and yellow kernels that provide two different flavors in each bite.

Peaches and Cream Sweet Corn



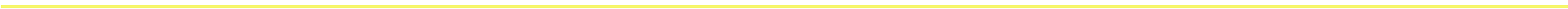
Popcorn



Popcorn

- Popcorn is a type of corn that is darker in color and has a rounder shape than other kinds of corn.
- The composition of popcorn is starchier than other types of corn. Water is stored inside of this starch and when the popcorn kernel is heated, the water heats, builds up pressure and takes up any available room until the outer surface gives way and the water explodes into the fluffy white popcorn we know.

Field corn



Field Corn

- The most grown type of corn in the US is field corn. Field corn has a small portion of field corn is processed for use as corn cereal, corn starch, corn oil and corn syrup for human consumption, it is primarily used for livestock feed, ethanol production and manufactured goods. In fact, field corn makes up 95 percent of the grain in animal feed.
- Field corn is referred to as dent corn because of the indentations or “dents” on the top of each kernel.

What Corn Is This?

99% of corn grown in the U.S. is field corn—used for corn tortillas, chips, corn oil, corn syrup, and more. The remaining 1% is sweet corn and popcorn.



POPCORN



SWEET CORN



FIELD CORN

Activity

- For our activity today you will have 3 sheets of construction paper. We are going to draw each type of corn we learned about today and write some differences between each of the types. We will do one sheet at a time. Be prepared to ask and answer questions over each different kind of corn.



Field Corn



Sweet Corn



Popcorn



Sweet Corn



Popcorn



Field Corn

Questions:

- What kind of corn do we buy at the grocery store?
- What is the number one crop in the U.S.?
- What kind of corn is used mostly as livestock feed.
- Describe how popcorn kernels are different than other types of corn kernels.
- What other name is field corn known as?
- Why is field corn known as dent corn?

Answers:

- What kind of corn do we buy at the grocery store? A: Sweet
- What is the number one crop in the U.S.? A: Field corn
- What kind of corn is used mostly as livestock feed. A: Field corn
- Describe how popcorn kernels are different than other types of corn kernels. A: They are generally darker in color and have a rounder shape than other types.
- What other name is field corn known as? A: Dent corn
- Why is field corn known as dent corn? A: The indentations or “dents” on the top of each kernel.