

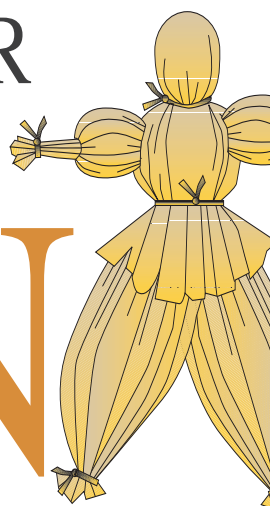
# KEEPING STUDENTS WELL INFORMED AT HOME WHILE THEY'RE DISTANCE LEARNING.



## WORLD OF WONDER

Exploring the realms of history, science, nature and technology

# CORN



### Corn husk doll

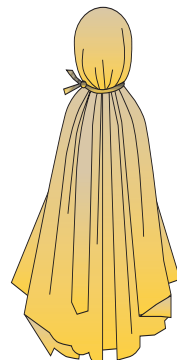
Corn was used for more than food in early America. The husks were often braided into useful things, like rugs, baskets and toys. Below are instructions on how to make a corn husk doll. Helpful tip: If you are using fresh husks, dry them between paper for a day or two. Soak very dry husks in warm water for 10 or 15 minutes until they are soft, then dry them; a doll made with wet husks will crack and fall apart later.

#### Materials needed

- Several corn husks
- Scissors
- Small foam ball
- String
- Pipe cleaners

#### Step 1

To make the head, take a bundle of three or four corn husks and tie them over the foam ball.

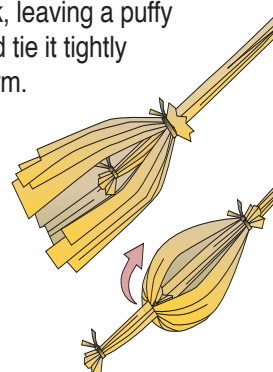


#### Step 2

To make the arms, wrap a husk around a pipe cleaner and tie it at each end.

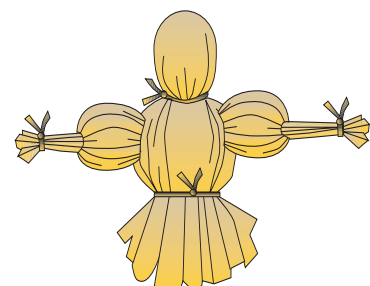
#### Step 3

For puffy sleeves, measure and cut a husk to 3 by 4 inches. Tie it about 1 inch from the end of the arm piece. Pull back the husk, leaving a puffy gap, and tie it tightly to the arm. Repeat this step on the other end for second sleeve.



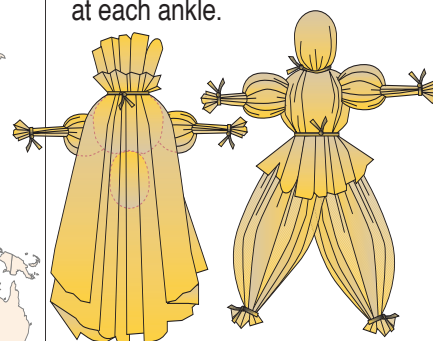
#### Step 4

Tuck the arms under the head-piece and center the head between the arms. Tie the husks below the arms to make the waist.



#### Step 5

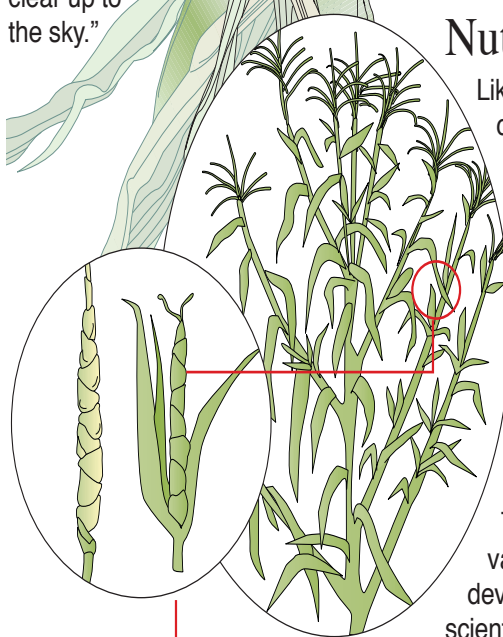
To make skirt: turn the doll upside down and tie four husks around the waist. Flip the doll right side up and smooth down the skirt. If you want the doll to have pants, divide the husks into two sections and tie at each ankle.



#### Step 6

Tidy the edges with scissors.

In the "Oklahoma" song "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "The corn is as high as an elephant's eye, An' it looks like its climbin' clear up to the sky."

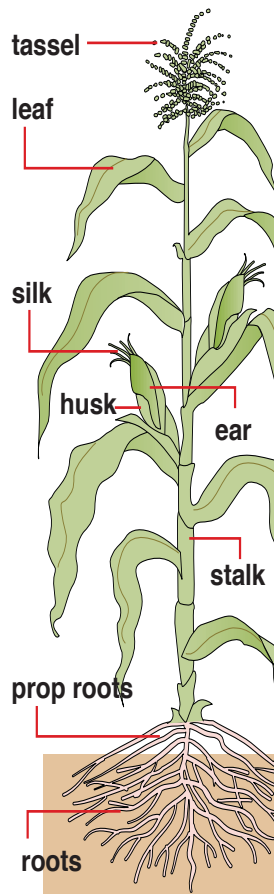


Teosinte has very small kernels and resembles barley or wheat more than it does modern corn.

### Nutrition

Like most carbohydrates, corn is a rich source of starch. Corn is also rich in phosphorus, magnesium, manganese, zinc, copper and iron. But corn is not a perfect food. It lacks amino acids, and people who eat only corn can suffer protein malnutrition.

Thousands of corn varieties have been developed by farmers and scientists. Typical Corn Belt plants grow from 4 to 12 feet (1.2–3.6) tall. Most Corn Belt varieties bear one ear about 9 inches (23 cm) long per plant.



### Did you know?

Corn is produced on every continent of the world with the exception of Antarctica.

Corn leads all other crops in value and volume of production.

An ear of corn averages 800 kernels in 16 rows.

A pound of corn consists of approximately 1,300 kernels.

Your bacon-and-egg breakfast, glass of milk at lunch, or hamburger for supper were all produced with U.S. corn.

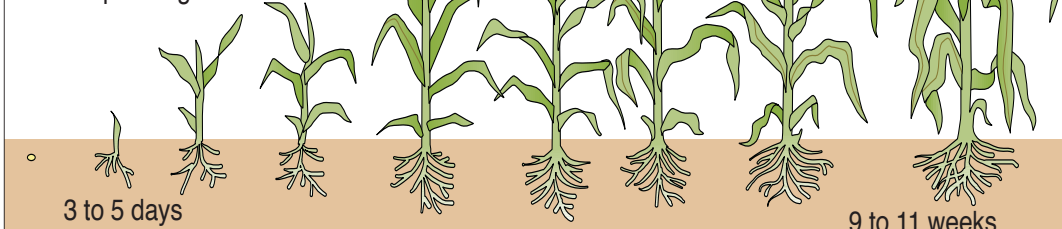
Corn is a major component in many food items like cereals, peanut butter, snack foods and soft drinks.

Corn is used to produce fuel alcohol. Fuel alcohol makes gasoline burn cleaner, reducing air pollution, and it doesn't pollute the water.

Sweet corn is harvested in the milk stage, before it dries out.

### Stages of growth

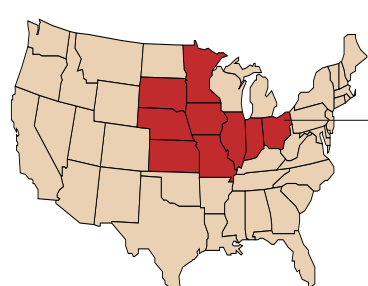
It has been said that corn grows so quickly that on some quiet evenings you can actually hear it growing. Two or three days after a corn seed is planted, roots are established. The first leaves emerge three to five days later. As the stalk grows taller, more and more leaves form. Four to six weeks later, the tassel at the top of the plant and buds (ears of corn) develop. A period of rapid growth follows, lasting several weeks. The plant reaches full maturity about 9 to 11 weeks after sprouting.



### Where in the world?

Today, corn is grown all over the world. The United States produces about two-fifths of the world's corn. The Midwestern states of Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota are part of the U.S. Corn Belt.

Other important corn-producing countries include Argentina, Brazil, China, France, India, Indonesia, Mexico and South Africa.



U.S. Corn Belt



Major corn-producing areas

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; www.campsilos.org; www.iowacorn.org; National Corn Growers Association — www.ncga.com;

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