

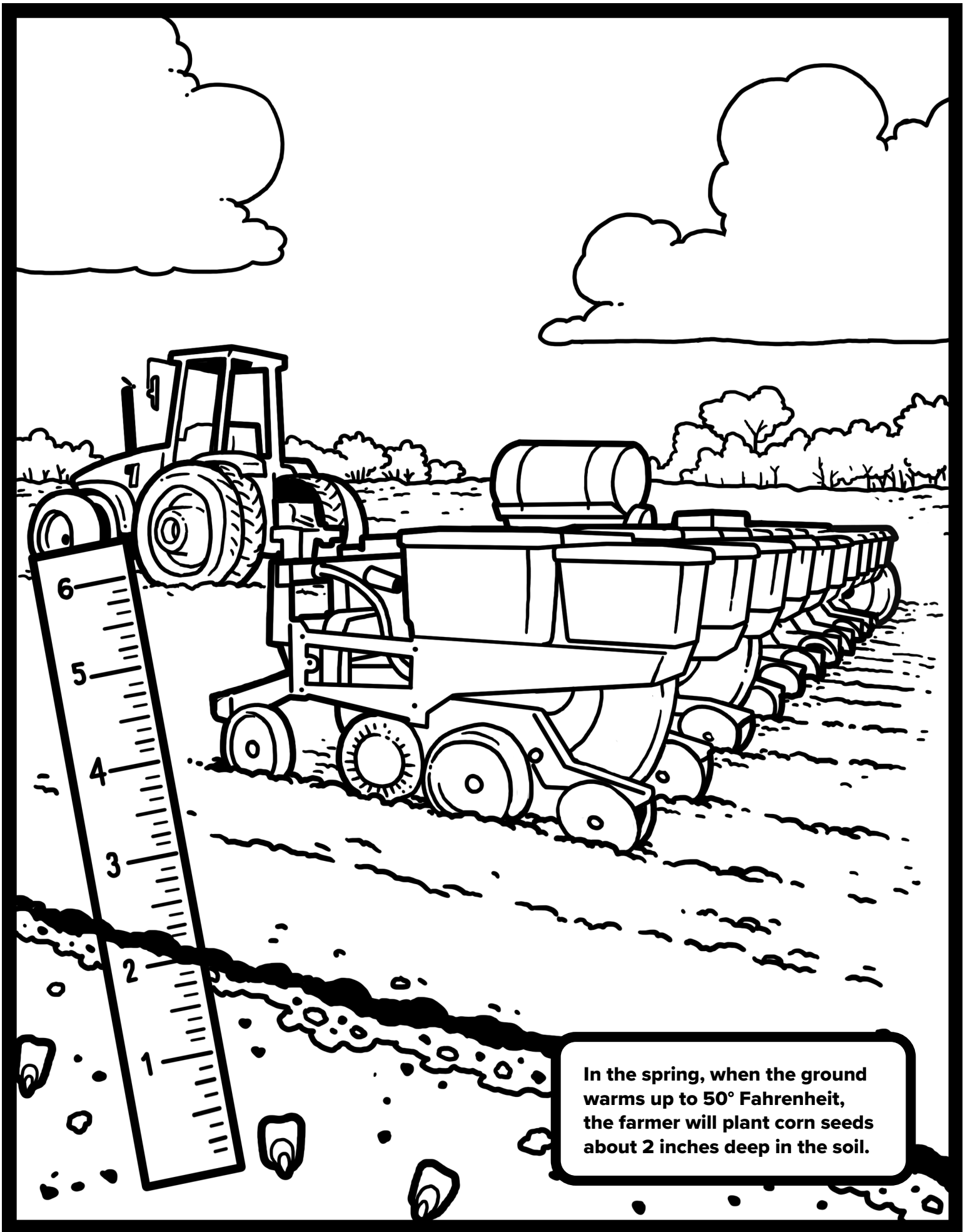


Kernels

OF

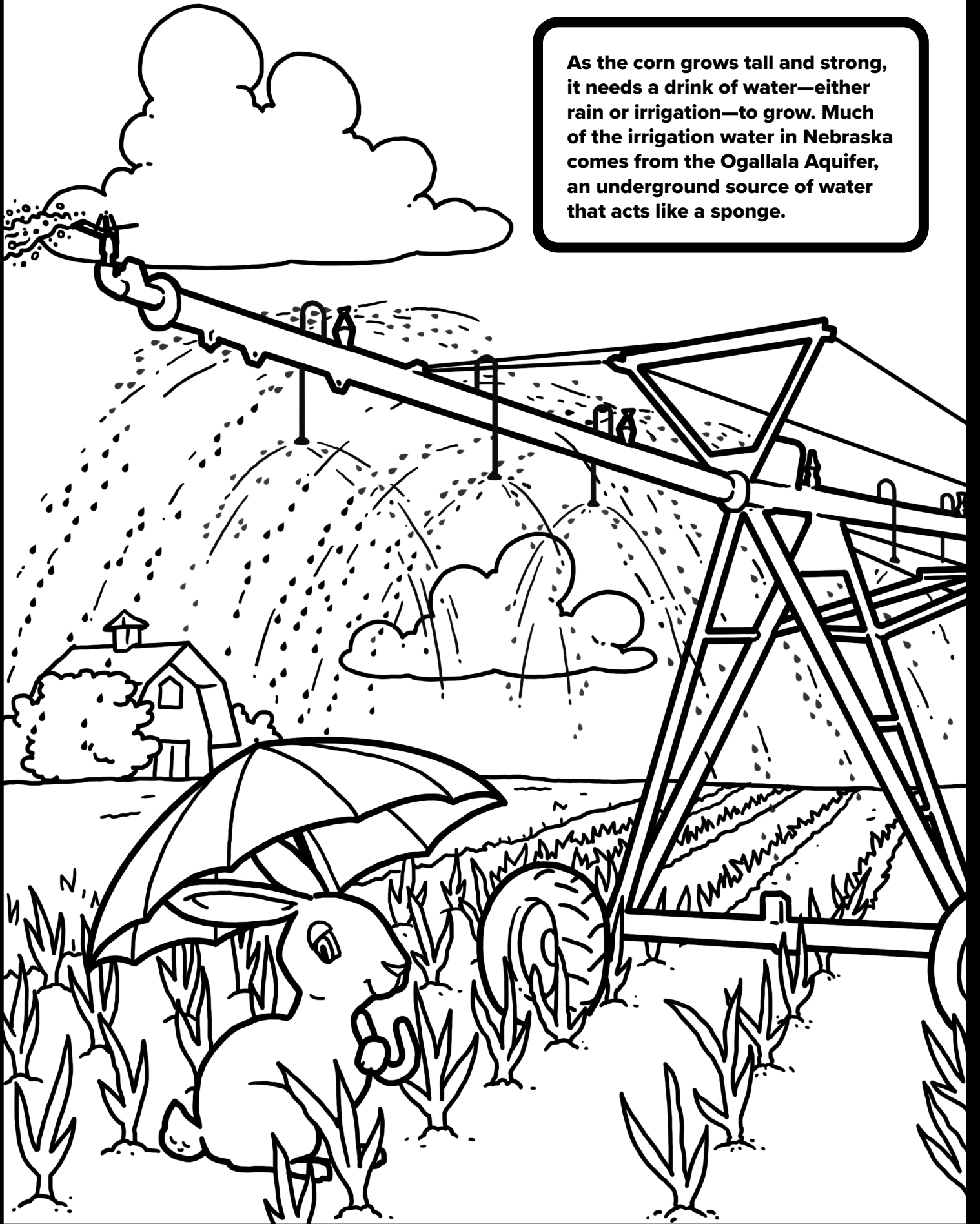
CORN

in Nebraska

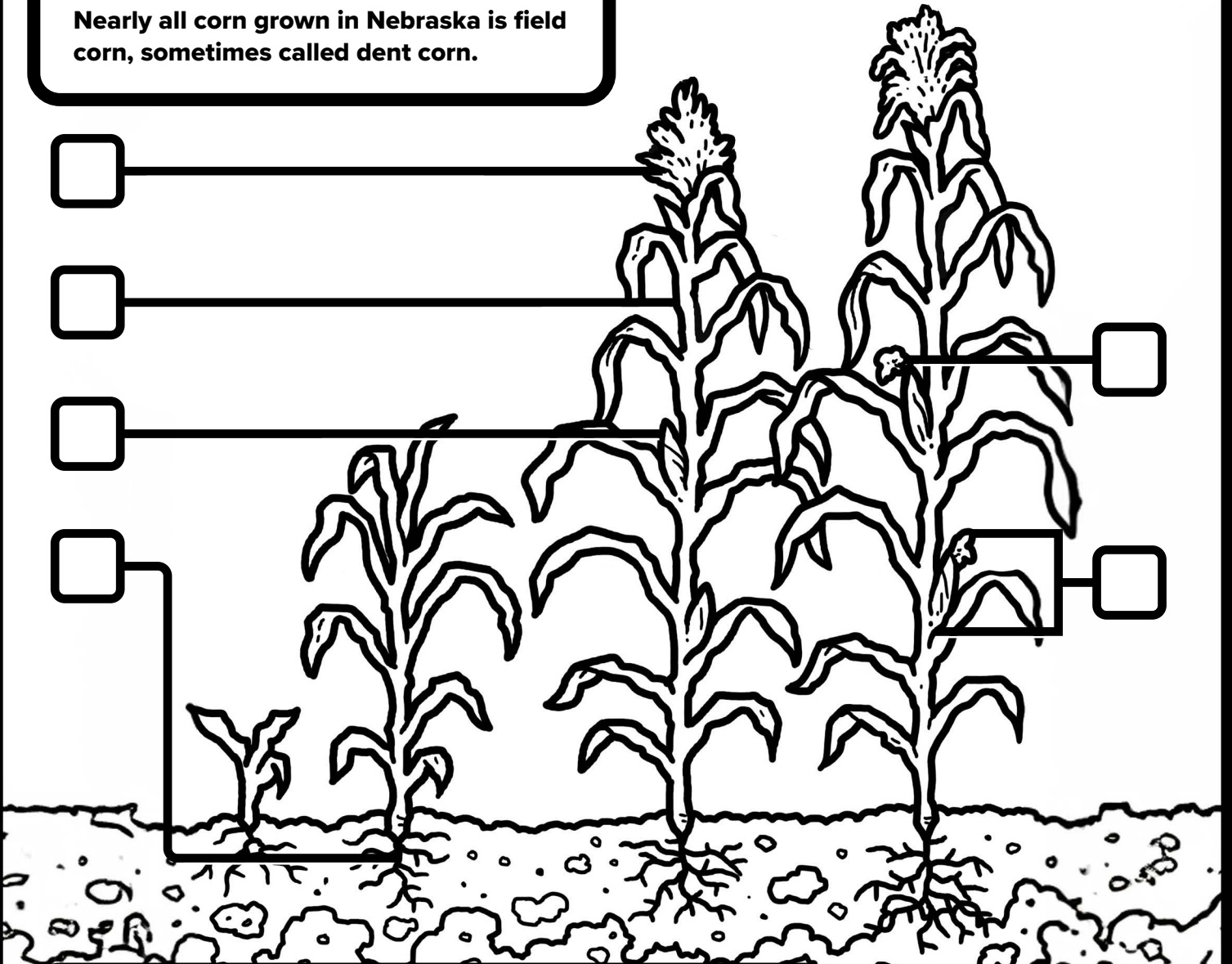


In the spring, when the ground warms up to 50° Fahrenheit, the farmer will plant corn seeds about 2 inches deep in the soil.

As the corn grows tall and strong, it needs a drink of water—either rain or irrigation—to grow. Much of the irrigation water in Nebraska comes from the Ogallala Aquifer, an underground source of water that acts like a sponge.



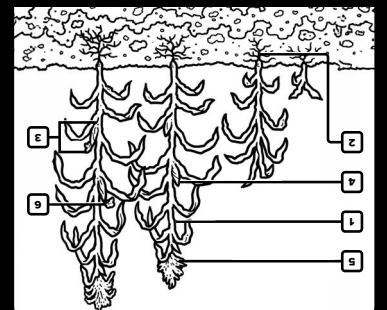
Nearly all corn grown in Nebraska is field corn, sometimes called dent corn.

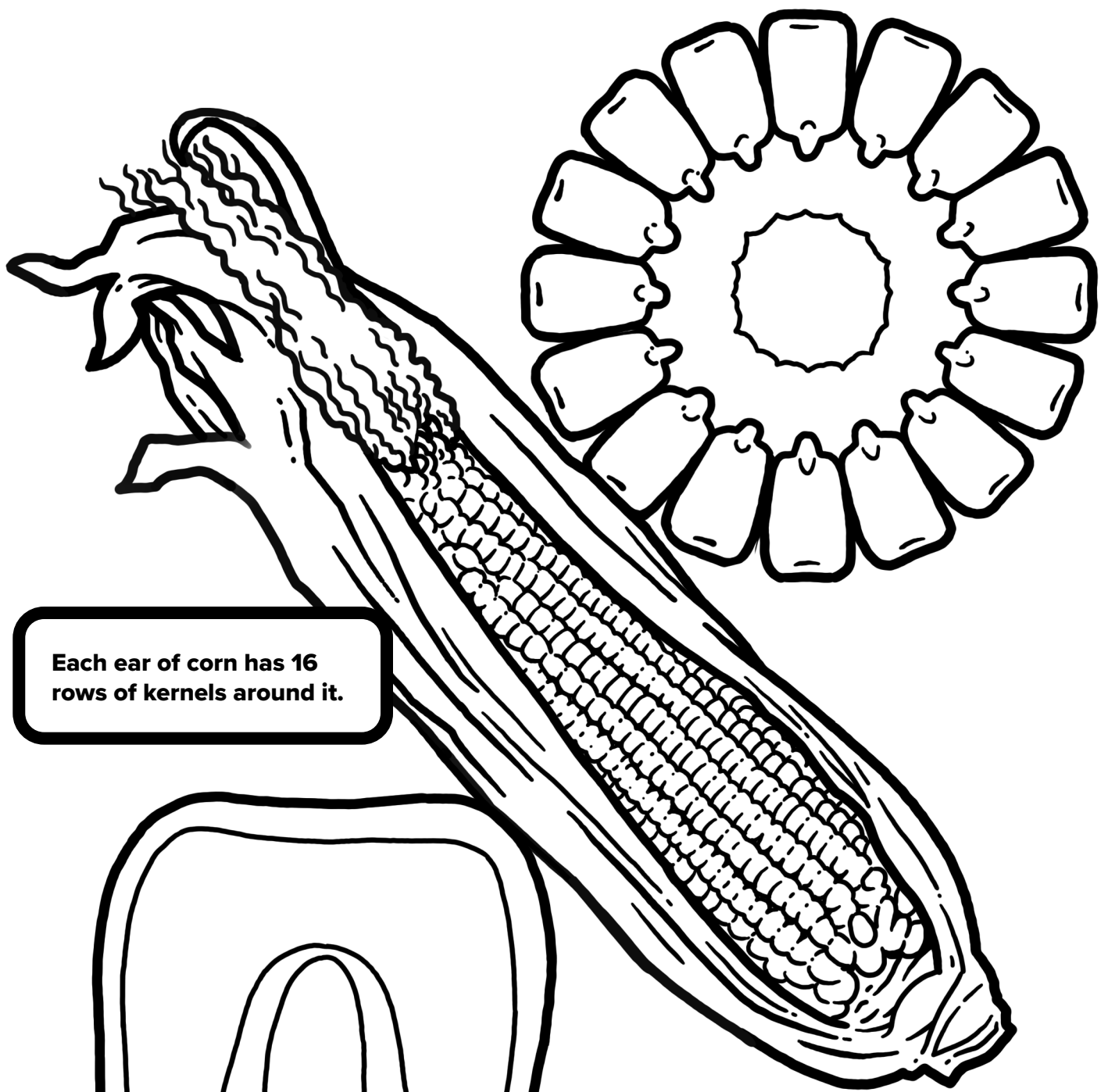


MATCH THE PARTS OF THE CORN PLANT

1. **Stalk:** This is the part of the plant that stands tall.
2. **Roots:** They absorb nutrients and water from the soil, and they help the plant grow big and strong.
3. **Ear:** This is where the kernels grow.
4. **Husk:** This keeps the corn from drying out. Don't eat it!
5. **Tassel:** It's found at the top of the plant. It helps the corn grow and ripen.
6. **Silk:** It feels soft and catches the pollen needed for the kernels to grow.

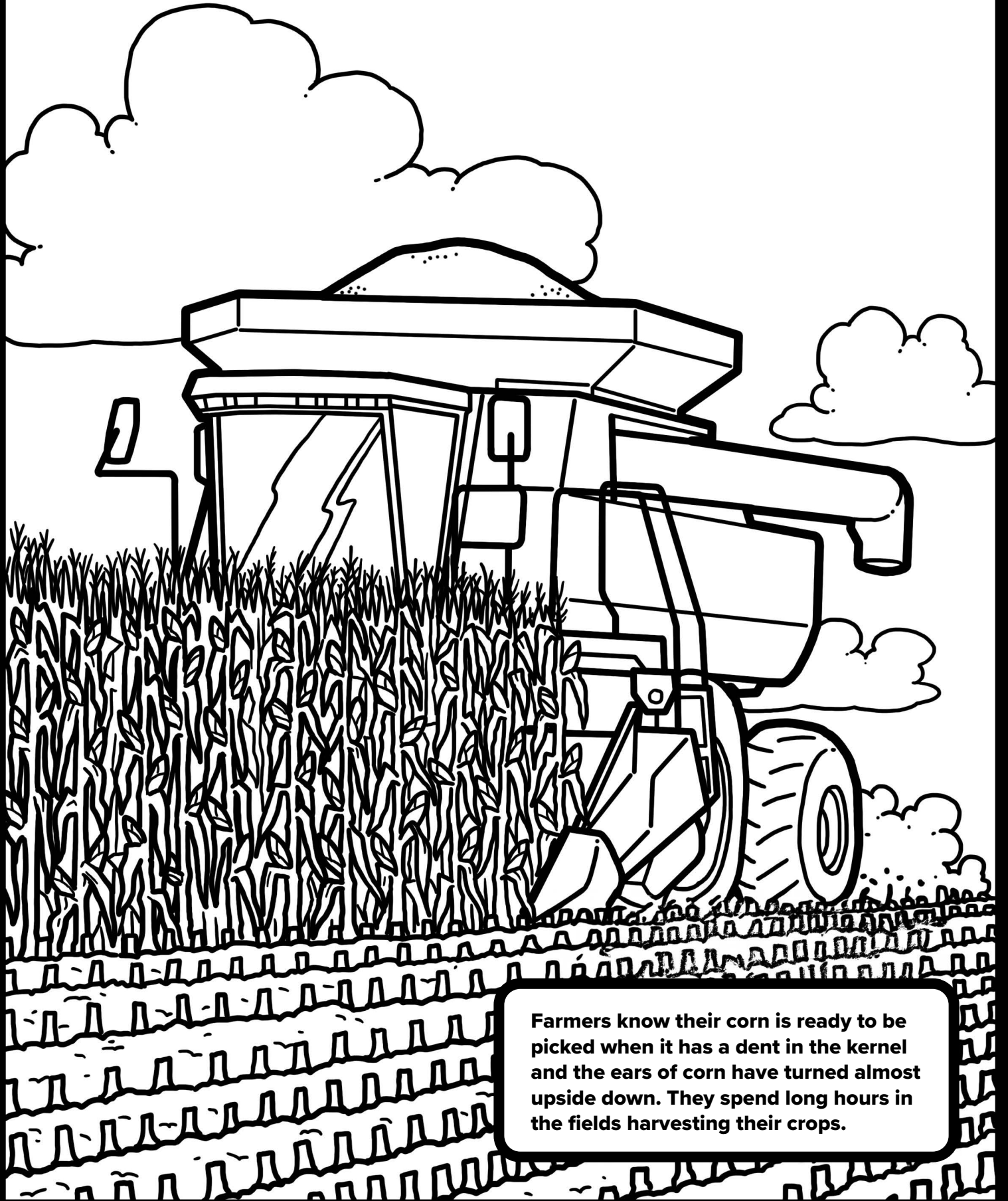
ANSWER KEY:



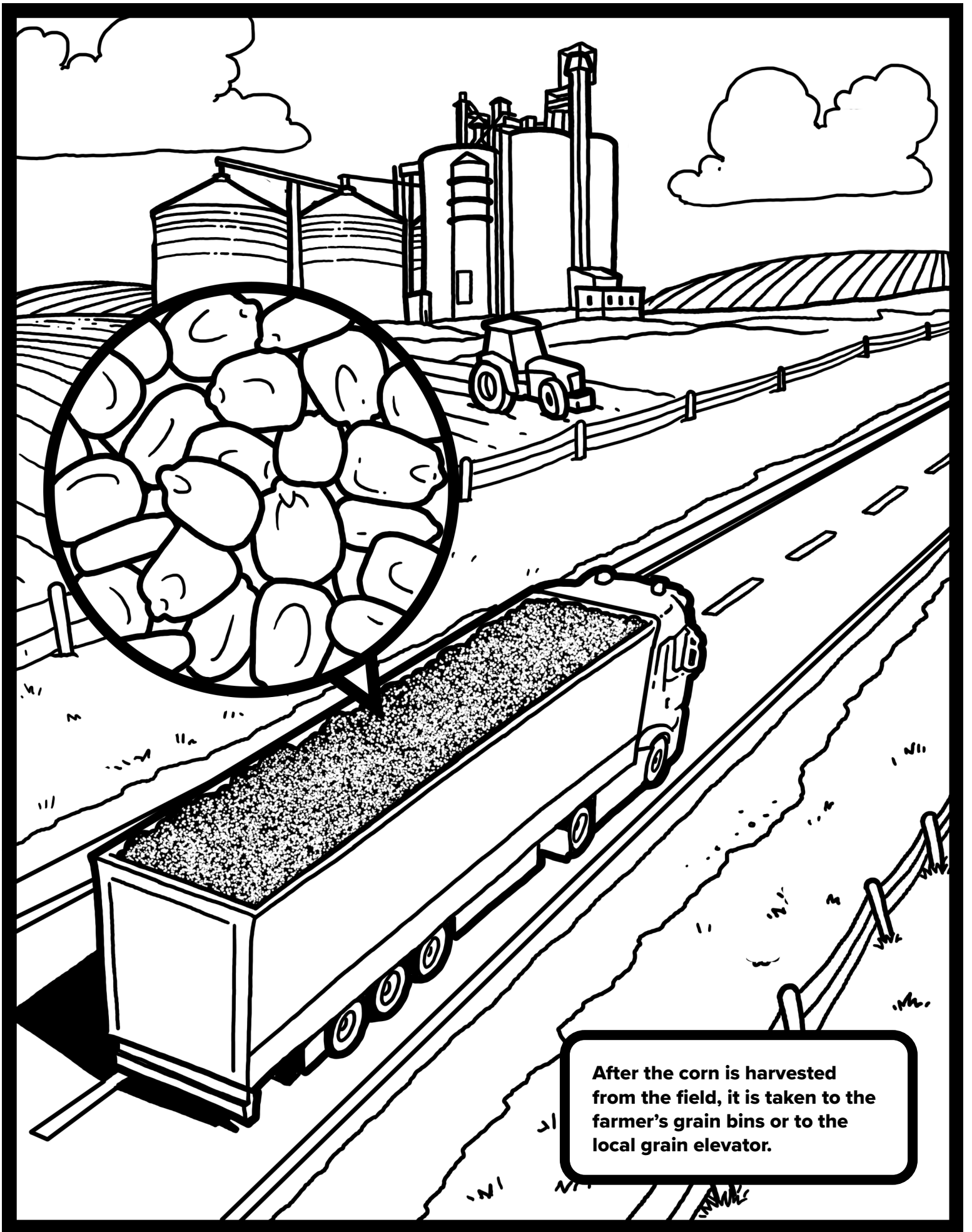


Each ear of corn has 16 rows of kernels around it.

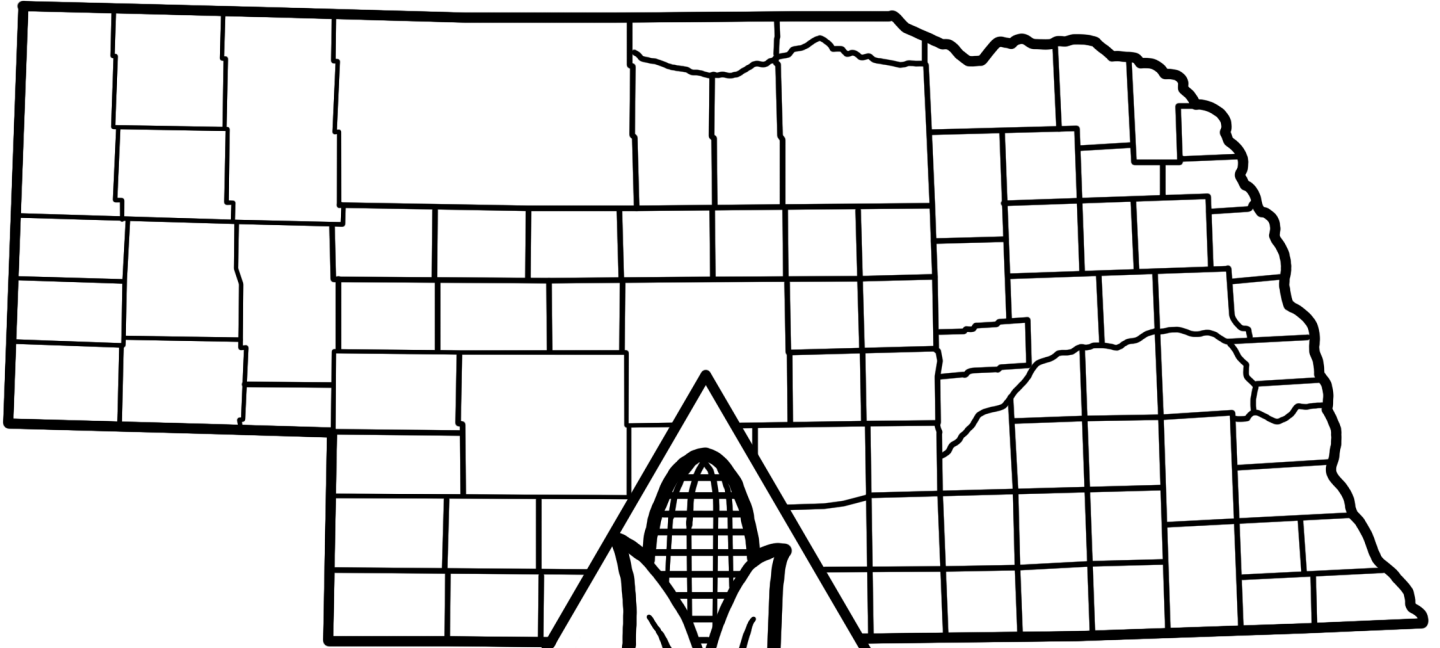
There are usually 800 kernels of corn on each ear.



Farmers know their corn is ready to be picked when it has a dent in the kernel and the ears of corn have turned almost upside down. They spend long hours in the fields harvesting their crops.



After the corn is harvested from the field, it is taken to the farmer's grain bins or to the local grain elevator.

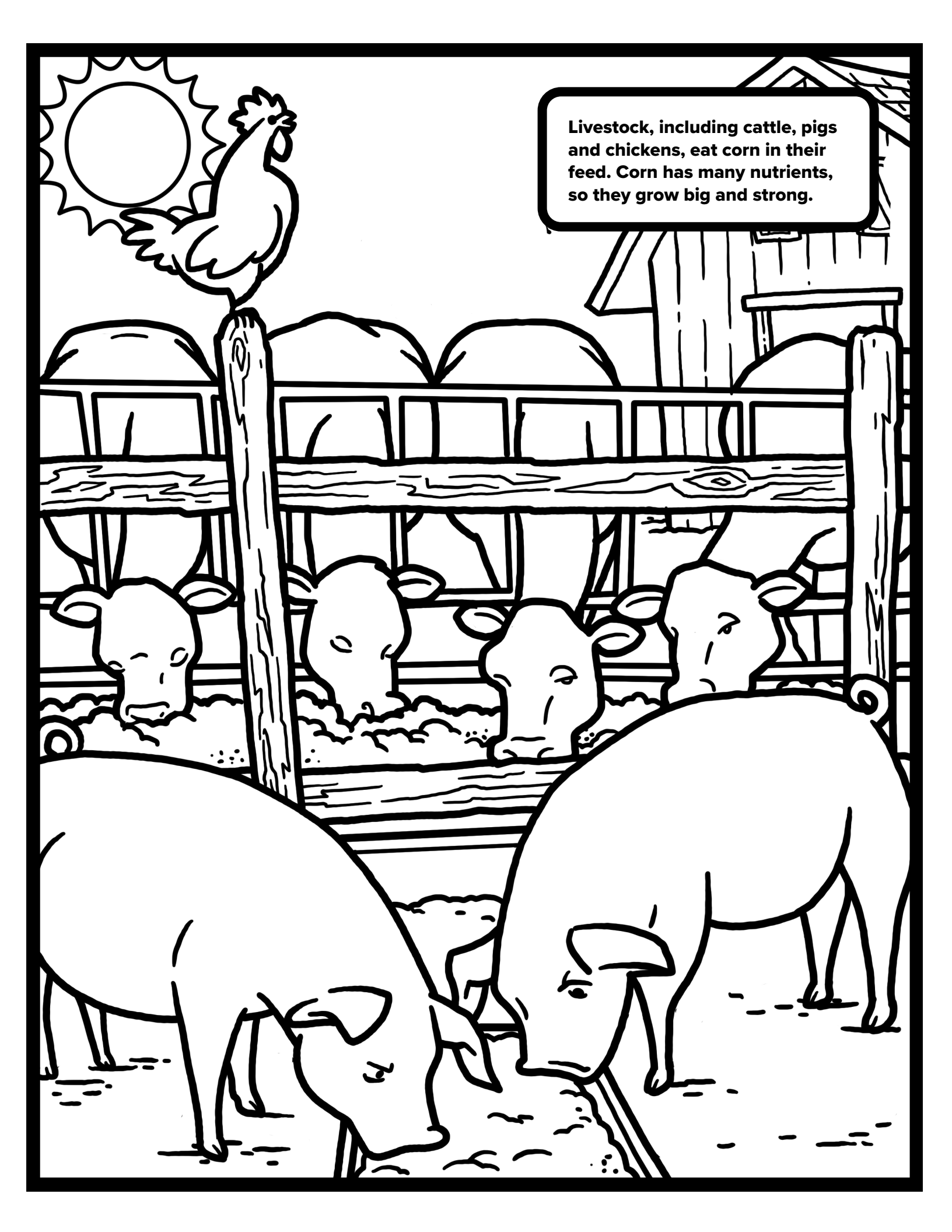


NEBRASKA'S

Golden Triangle

CORN / ETHANOL / LIVESTOCK

Our state is special because of the Golden Triangle. Nebraska farmers have two main markets for their corn: ethanol and livestock. Nebraska is the third-largest producer of corn in the country. Corn, ethanol and livestock all work together!

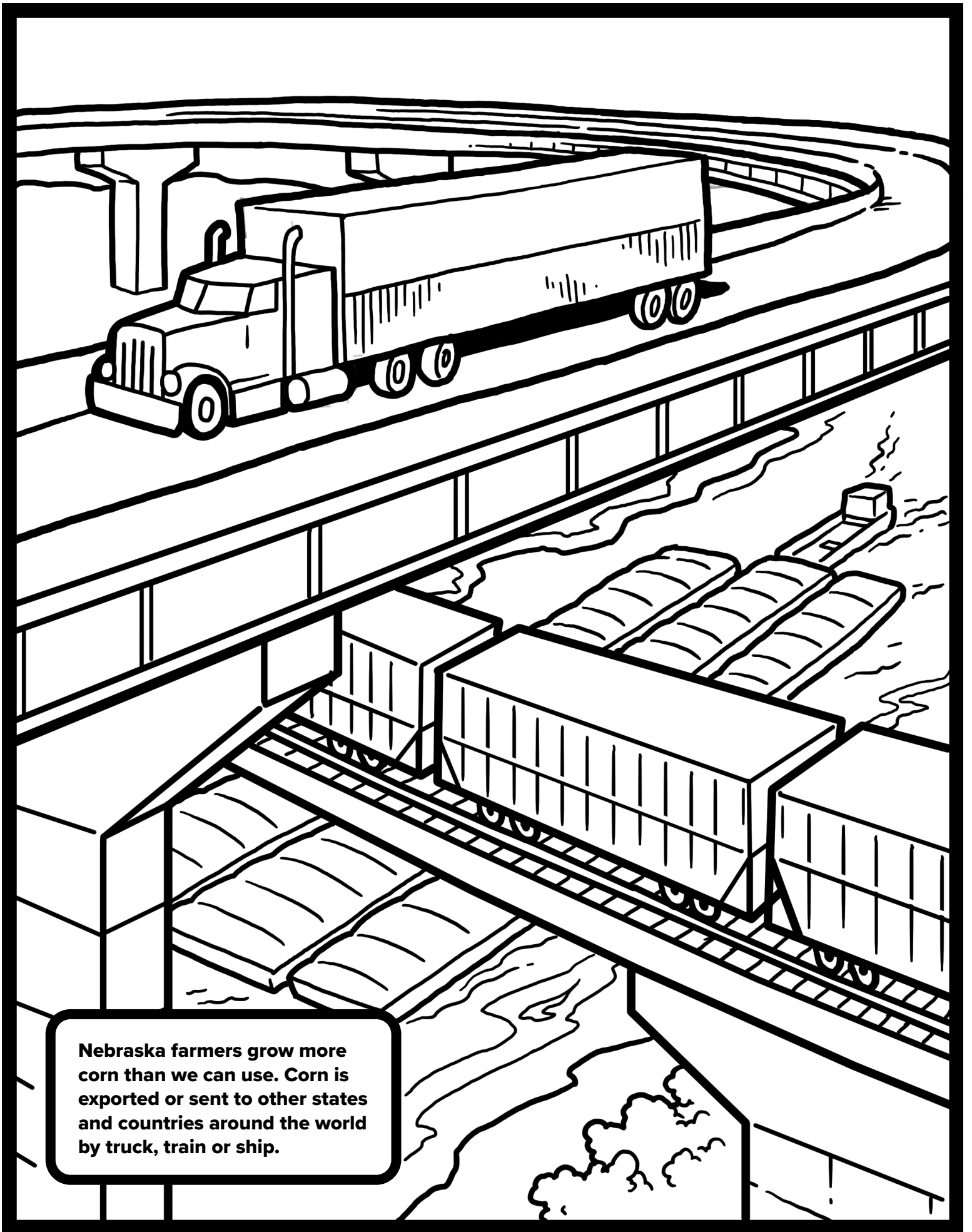


Livestock, including cattle, pigs and chickens, eat corn in their feed. Corn has many nutrients, so they grow big and strong.

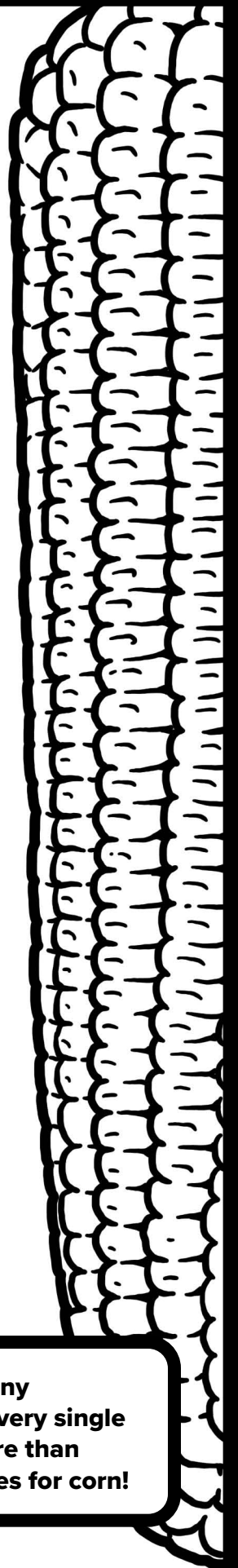
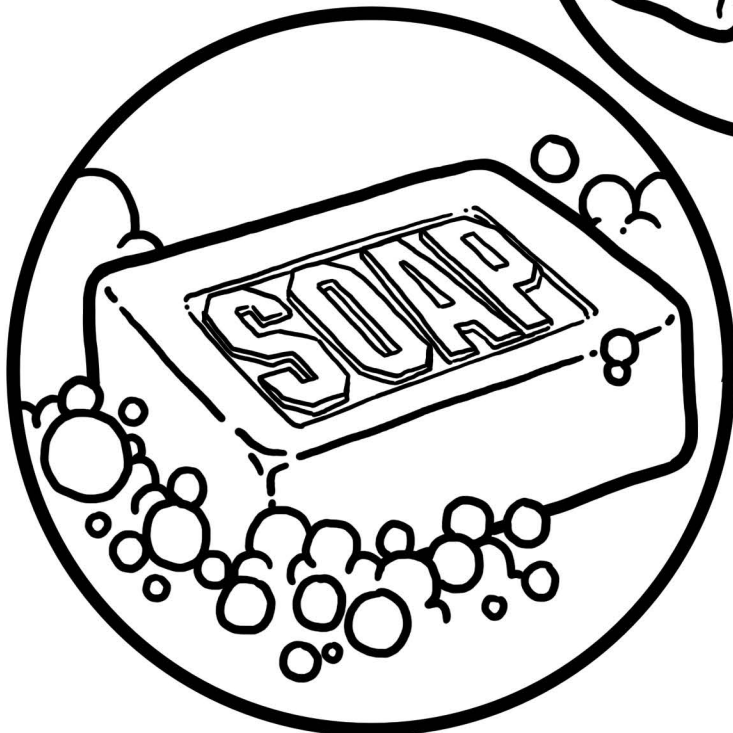
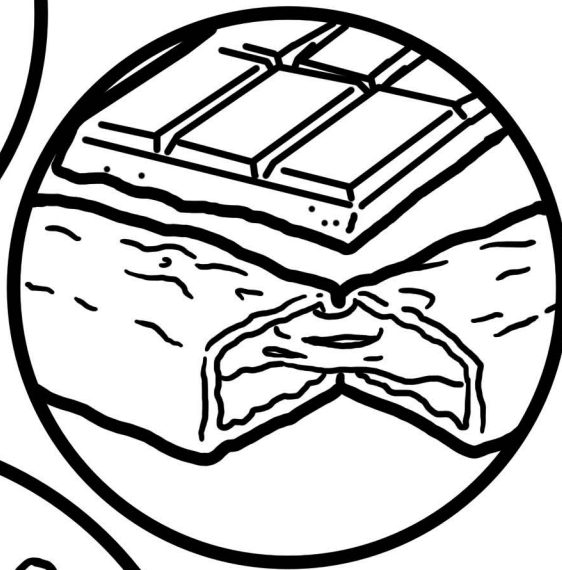
Gas put into your car or truck often contains ethanol, a product made from corn.

ETHANOL

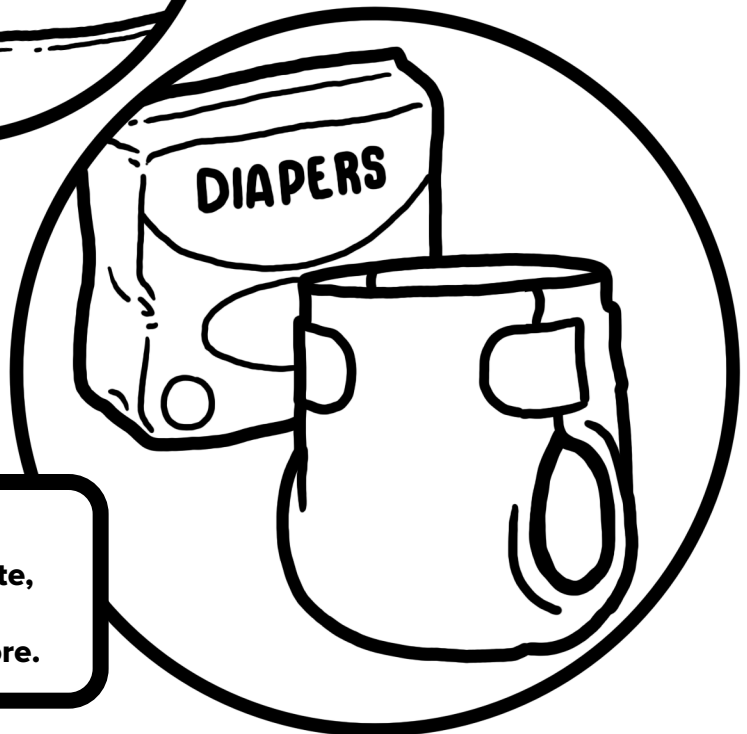
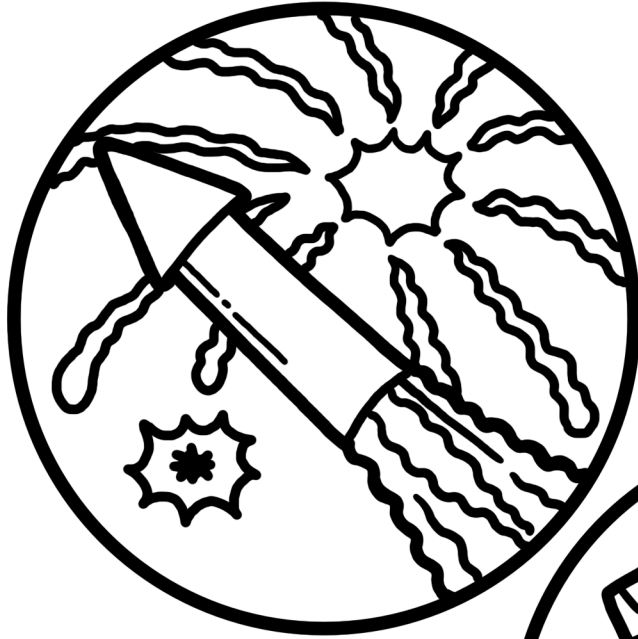




Nebraska farmers grow more corn than we can use. Corn is exported or sent to other states and countries around the world by truck, train or ship.



Corn is used in many products we use every single day! There are more than 3,500 different uses for corn!



Corn has many byproducts that are found in bubble gum, candy, toothpaste, fireworks, medicine when you're sick, soap, corn chips, baby diapers and more.

Nebraska
CornBoard