LET'S POP, POP, POPCORN!

by Cynthia Schumerth

Told through exuberant rhyme, a group of children shows the step-by-step process of how America’s favorite snack comes about. Beginning with the planting of seeds, the cycle moves through the caretaking of the plant (watering and weeding), all the way to its harvest. Finally, it’s time to shuck, then pop the kernels, and enjoy the finished product! Complete with back matter that includes scientific facts and activities, Let’s Pop, Pop, Popcorn! offers a fun introduction to the process of creating popcorn.

Fun Facts:

- The United States is the world’s largest producer of popcorn. It is mostly grown in states like Kentucky, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska.
- Popcorn needs between 13.5-14% moisture to pop.
- Popcorn kernels come from actual corn, but not the type you eat for dinner! Only one variety of maize creates the kernels which become the popcorn we all know and love: zea mays everta.
- An Average american eats almost 70 quarts of popcorn every year, and Americans consume approximately 17.3 billion quarts of popcorn annually!

Videos:

- How Popcorn Works | How Things Work with Kamri Noel
- How Is Popcorn Grown? Indiana Farmer
- Types Of Corn - Kernels of Knowledge
- POPCORN | How It’s Made
- From the Farm Virtual Field Trip: Popcorn Farm

Activities:

- Popcorn 5 Senses Activity
- Popcorn Science STEM Investigation: Tasty Science Fun!
- Pop popcorn on the cob-purchase a cob here
- STEM • Engineering: Popcorn Chef (mixtures and solutions)
- STEAM Challenge: Students will create a snack box from a paper plate to hold their popcorn
- Dancing Popcorn STEM Experiment
- Ranch Style Popcorn Seasoning

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