



# Four Seasons on a Farm



**Photo Credits:** Cover: Neil Beer/Photodisc/Getty Images; 2 moodboard/Alamy; 3 Ilene MacDonald/Alamy; 4 Corbis; 5 Rick Miller/AgStock Images/Corbis; 6 Jeremy Woodhouse/Photodisc/Getty Images; 7 Image Source Pink/Alamy; 8 Randy M. Ury/Corbis.

If you have received these materials as examination copies free of charge, Harcourt School Publishers retains title to the materials and they may not be resold. Resale of examination copies is strictly prohibited and is illegal.

Possession of this publication in print format does not entitle users to convert this publication, or any portion of it, into electronic format.



by Dorothy Spangler

Copyright © by Harcourt, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be addressed to School Permissions and Copyrights, Harcourt, Inc., 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777. Fax: 407-345-2418.

HARCOURT and the Harcourt Logo are trademarks of Harcourt, Inc., registered in the United States of America and/or other jurisdictions.

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN-13: 978-0-15-362394-3

ISBN-10: 0-15-362394-2

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 175 10 09 08 07

 **Harcourt**  
SCHOOL PUBLISHERS

Visit The Learning Site!  
[www.harcourtschool.com](http://www.harcourtschool.com)



## 🔊 Life on a Farm

The Clarks live on a farm in Ohio. They raise plants and animals for food. They work all year long in all kinds of weather—heat and cold, sun and rain. Each season of the year brings changes to their farm.

### 🔊 Spring

In spring, the winter snow melts. The ground thaws and becomes soft. Trees grow new leaves, and bright flowers bloom. Sometimes there is still snow on the ground when the lambs are born.



🔊 spring lambs

A red tractor is shown from a rear-three-quarter view, plowing a dark brown field. The tractor is moving away from the viewer, leaving a trail of dark soil. In the background, a vibrant green field of wheat stretches towards a line of trees. A small, dark building is visible in the distance. The sky is clear and blue. A blue speech bubble with a white speaker icon and the text "spring planting" is positioned in the upper left corner of the image.

## spring planting

Mr. Clark drives a tractor and plants corn and soybeans in his fields. The wheat that Mr. Clark planted last fall is already growing. The wheat field looks like a big, green backyard behind the house!

Mr. Clark's family helps him with the work. Mrs. Clark drives the tractor, too. Their children, Mary and Charles, have chores. They feed the farm animals and keep the farm buildings clean.



## 🔊 Summer

The wheat grows until it looks like a field of tall grass. It turns from green to a beautiful gold. By June, it is ready to harvest.

🔊 Mr. Clark drives a big machine called a combine. It loads the wheat into trucks. Then the trucks take the wheat into town. A big building, called a grain elevator, stores the wheat. Later, factories will use the wheat to make bread, noodles, and other products.





at the state fair


Is Mr. Clark's work done after the wheat harvest? Not at all! Now he grows sunflowers to sell their seeds. He tends the soybeans and corn.

In late summer, in August, the Clark family goes to the state fair. Charles and Mary show young animals they have raised. Charles wins a prize for his large, healthy pig. Mary wins a blue ribbon for her cow.



## Fall

In fall, the sunflowers are as tall as Mr. Clark! Their seeds are ripe, so Mr. Clark harvests the sunflower crop.

 The seeds will be used to make oil for cooking. Some of the seeds will be used to make snack food for people to enjoy. Other sunflower seeds will be used for bird food.



 sunflowers






 a field of corn

- 🔊 Now the soybeans have turned a deep golden color and are ready to harvest. It's time to harvest the corn, too.
- 🔊 The long days of summer are over. The days are growing shorter. There is not much daytime to get the work done on the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are often in the fields after dark. The harvesting can not wait!
- 🔊 Before the winter comes, Mr. Clark plants wheat again. It will be the first crop he will harvest next year!





## Winter

In winter, snow covers the farm. Even in the snow, Mr. Clark plants a crop. He mixes grass and alfalfa seeds. Mr. Clark drops the seed mix on top of the frozen ground. The crop that comes up in the spring will feed horses and cows on his and other farms.

 The Clark family works through the winter. They clean the barn and plan for spring. They make sure that the tractor runs well. They will need it to plant new crops when spring comes!



## **Think and Write**

-  **1.** What changes does the wheat go through in the spring and summer?
-  **2.** How can you tell when it is time to harvest sunflowers?
-   **3. Descriptive Writing** Describe how a plant outside of your home changed from one season to the next.

## **Hands-On Activity**

**Favorite Season** Draw a picture of something that happens on the farm during your favorite season.

## **School-Home Connection**

**In the Kitchen** With family members, look for food in your kitchen that could have come from plants or animals on the Clarks' farm.



**GRADE 1**

AL Book 8

**WORD COUNT**

500

**GENRE**

Expository Nonfiction

**LEVEL**

See TG or go Online



Harcourt Leveled  
Readers Online Database  
[www.eharcourtschool.com](http://www.eharcourtschool.com)

ISBN-13: 978-0-15-362394-3

ISBN-10: 0-15-362394-2



9