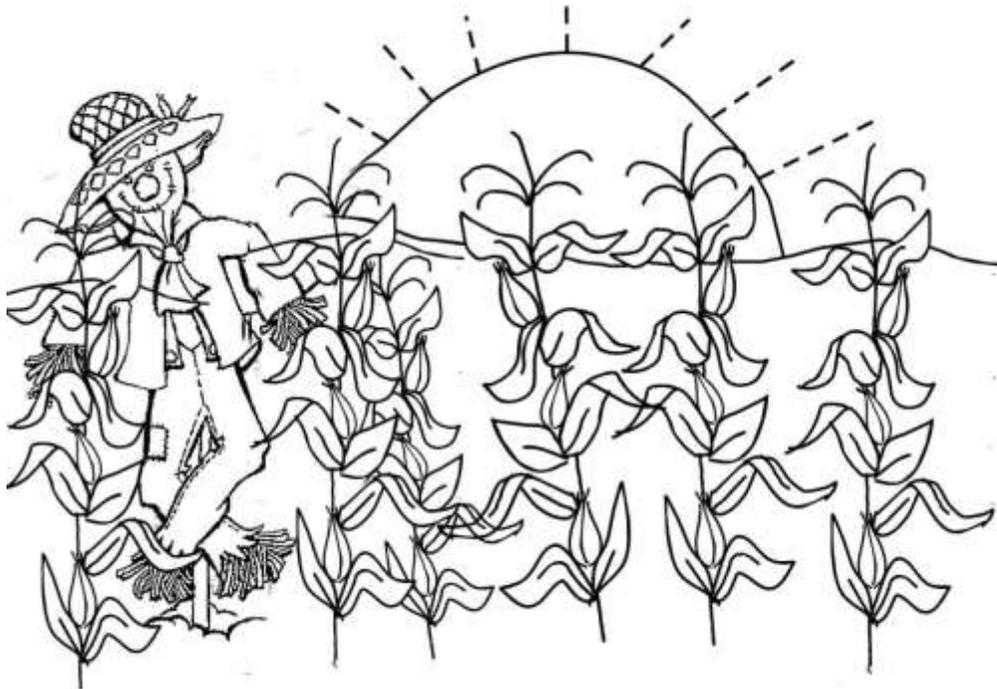


# SCARECROWS



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# SCARECROWS



A scarecrow is made of old clothes stuffed with straw. It is hung on a post in a garden or farm field. They scare birds away from seeds and crops. Birds can destroy gardens by eating the seeds and crops. Scarecrows protect the crops until harvest time.

Read each sentence. Fill in the missing words.

1. A scarecrow is stuffed with \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A scarecrow scares away \_\_\_\_\_.
3. A scarecrow protects the crops until \_\_\_\_\_.

# SCARECROWS

Hungry birds are a problem for farmers. Birds will feed on newly cast seeds and farm crops. Birds are territorial and will return to the same place daily. For over 3,000 years scarecrows have been used to protect crops from birds.



Circle the correct answer.

When did farmers begin to use scarecrows in their fields?  
(today, 3,000 years ago, 300 years ago, last week)

Why did farmers need scarecrows?  
(scare birds away, decoration, to attract birds)

# SCARECROWS

We think of scarecrows as old clothes stuffed with straw. But over the centuries, farmers have invented different things to protect their crops.



In ancient Egypt, along the Nile River, farmers needed to protect their wheat fields from flocks of quail. Egyptian farmers put wooden frames in their fields and covered them with



nets. The farmers hid in the fields and scared the quail into the nets. Then they took the quail's home and ate them for dinner!

Circle the correct answer.

1. Farmers have always used scarecrows made old clothes and straw to protect their crops. (True False)

Read each sentence. Fill in the missing words.

2. Ancient Egyptian farmers protect their \_\_\_\_\_ fields from

\_\_\_\_\_.

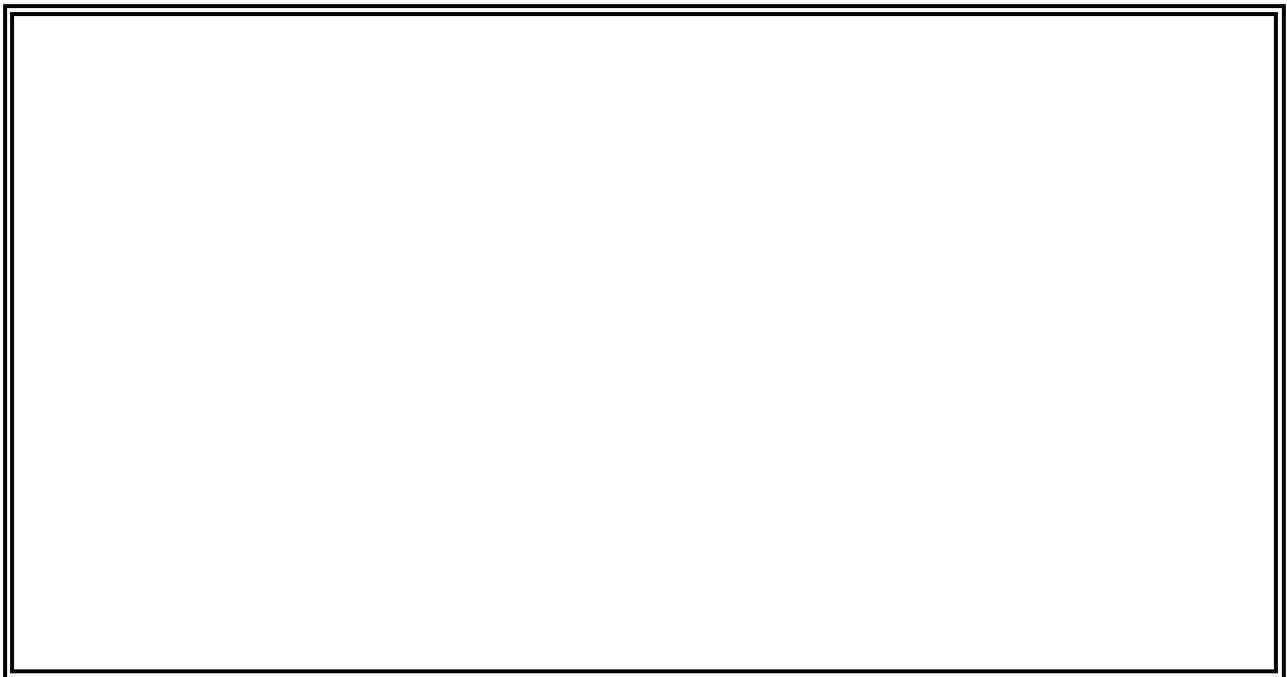
3. Ancient Egyptian farmers used \_\_\_\_\_ covered with nets to protect their fields.

# SCARECROWS



In the fields of ancient Greece, farmers placed wooden statues in the vineyards. Greek farmers are credited with creating the first scarecrows that resembled a human figure more than 2,500 years ago. The wooden statues were carved to look like Priapus, a minor Greek god of gardens. Priapus was ugly. The statue was painted purple and a club was placed in one hand to make the statue look dangerous and a sickle was placed in the other hand for a good harvest. Birds tended to stay away from fields with a Priapus statue.

Draw a vineyard with a wooden statue scarecrow.



# SCARECROWS



In Japan farmers began making scarecrows at about the same time as the Greeks. Farmers placed old dirty rags and noisemakers like bells hanging on bamboo sticks in fields and then lit them on fire. The flames and smell would keep the birds and other animals away. The Japanese farmers called their scarecrows *kakashis* which means something stinky. Eventually, Japanese farmers began making scarecrows that looked like people in raincoats and hats. Sometimes they were equipped with weapon such as a bow and arrow to make them look even more frightening.

Circle the correct answer.

1. At first Japanese farmers used old rags, bells, and fire to keep birds away. (True, False)
2. The Japanese word for scarecrow is *kakashis* and means smells sweet. (True, False)
3. Japanese farmer use scarecrows that look like a human wear raincoats and hats. (True, False).

# SCARECROWS

In Europe instead of a scarecrow that looked human real humans were hired as scarecrows. During the Middle Ages in Europe, young boys and old men worked as bird shooers. Also, sometimes girls worked as bird shooers.



They spent hours in the fields throwing stones or flapping their arms while running and shouting to scare birds away from the farm fields. They also carried wooden clappers, blocks of wood fastened together, that they clapped to frighten away birds that might eat the grain. Guarding a field all summer long was hard work.

1. In the Middle Ages in Europe real people were hired as \_\_\_\_\_ to protect the farmer's crops.

2. Who was hired as human scarecrows? \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_, and sometimes \_\_\_\_\_ were hired as human scarecrows.

# SCARECROWS

As the population in Europe decreased due to the plague, there was a shortage of people to scamp around the fields shooing birds away. Farmers stuffed old clothes with straw, placed a turnip or gourd on top for a head, and mounted the figure in the field. The farmers found that these lifelike figures did a good job of keeping crows away.



Write your answer below.

Why did farmers in Europe begin to use scarecrows made from old clothes?

# SCARECROWS



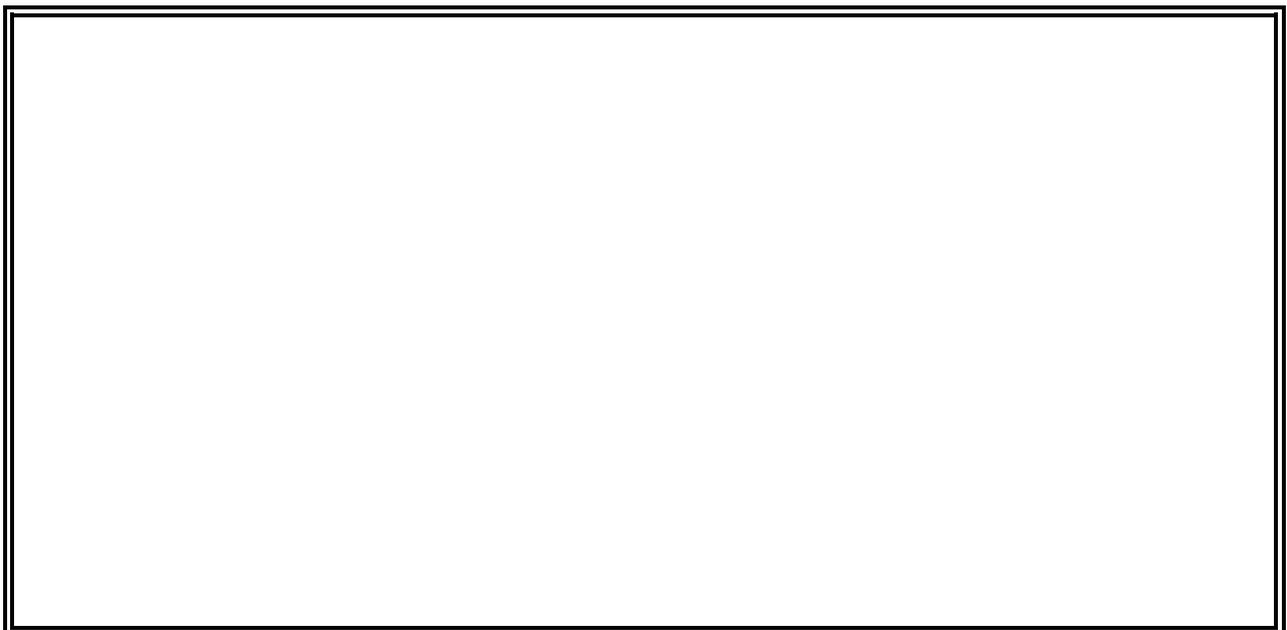
*Turnips varieties.*

Small tender turnips are grown for humans to eat. Larger varieties of turnips are grown as feed for livestock.

Some gourds are edible and some are not. They have been used as decoration, to make musical instruments, and cups. Some of the hard-rinded gourds, such as pumpkins, are carved to create Jack O' Lanterns.



Draw a scarecrow with a turnip or pumpkin head.



# SCARECROWS

In what are now Virginia and the Carolinas, Native American men would sit on raised platforms and shout at the birds that came near the crops. In the Southwest, the Zuni tribe used lines of cedar poles strung with cords and animal skins to keep the birds away from the crops.

Some German settlers in Pennsylvania called their scarecrows *bootzamon* or boogeyman. The *bootzamon* stood guard over the fields. Sometimes a female scarecrow was added to the field. The *bootzamon* wore old overalls, a long-sleeved shirt or coat, a worn woolen hat or straw hat, and a red handkerchief around his neck. By the 1930s, the traditional scarecrow, with a painted face and patches on its overalls, was a common sight on American farms.



Scarecrows are still used throughout the world, but in North America and other developed countries they have largely disappeared in favor of chemical sprays and other more efficient bird-control technologies. In recent years, scarecrows have been used mostly for decoration, becoming a symbol of the fall harvest season. In more rural countries, scarecrows are still in use.

# SCARECROWS

Many different things were used to keep birds away from the farmers' fields. Why did they work in scaring the birds away?

## Scarecrows

- \*Ancient Egyptians used wood frames covered with nets.
- \*Ancient Greeks used wood statues painted purple with a club and a sickle (which is made of metal and shiny)
- \*Ancient Japanese used hung up old rags and noisemakers like bells, and then lit fires. They later made human like scarecrows with hats and raincoats.
- \*European farms made scarecrows with stuffed old clothes and turnip or gourd heads.
- \*German settlers in Pennsylvania created scarecrows from long-sleeved shirts or coats, wearing a hat, and a red handkerchief.
- \*Traditional American scarecrows have a painted face and patches on its overalls and some with ribbons tied on them.

Unscramble the words below to find the answers.

1. MVOE

\_\_\_\_\_

2. ISHNE

\_\_\_\_\_

3. EMKA NEIOS

\_\_\_\_\_

# Making Words

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## S-C-A-R-E-C-R-O-W



How many words can you make from the word  
SCARECROW?

Print one word on each line.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

13. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

19. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_

# Scarecrow Criss Cross

Fit the words into the squares.

scarecrow

harvest

crops

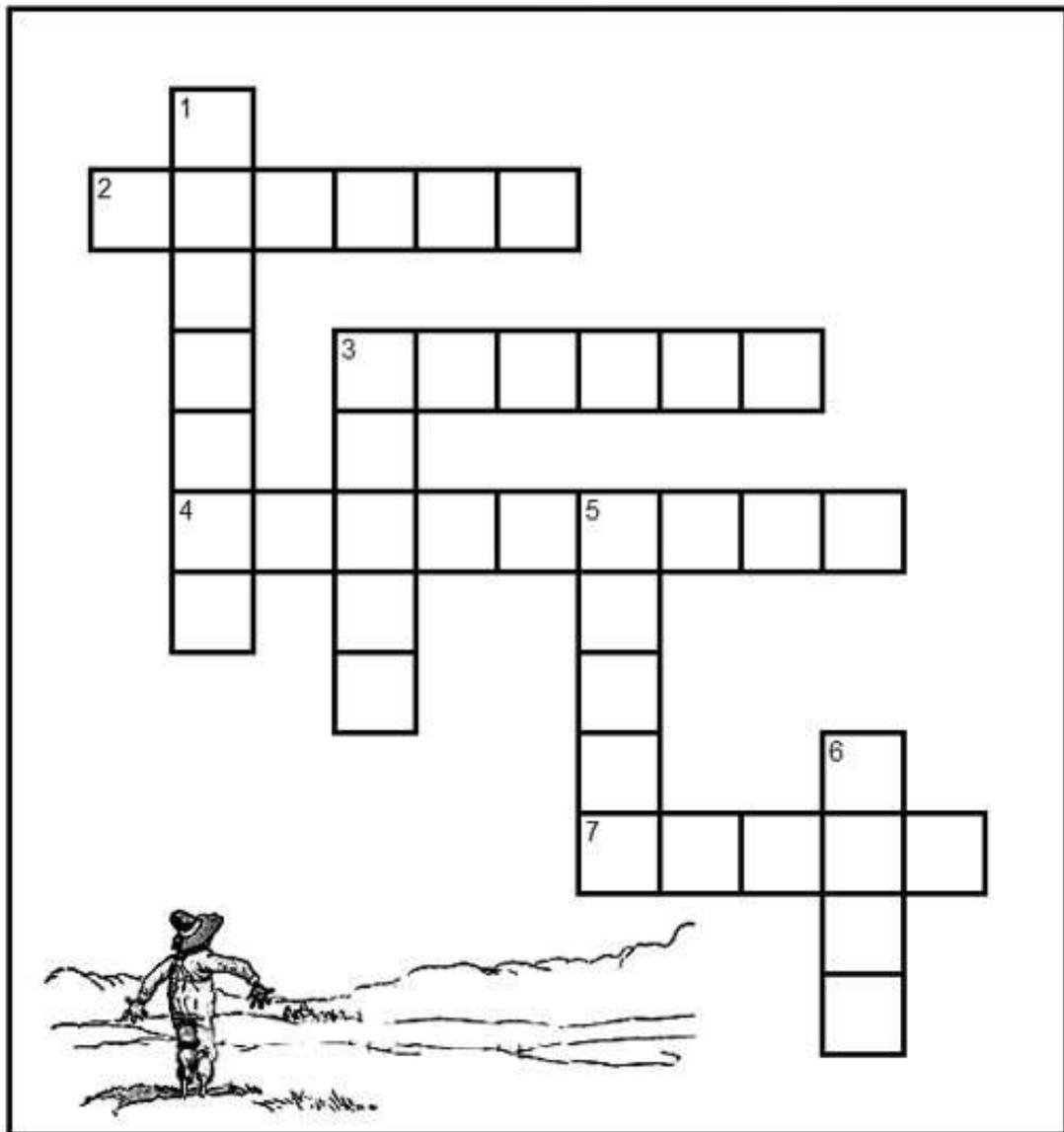
guard

straw

fall

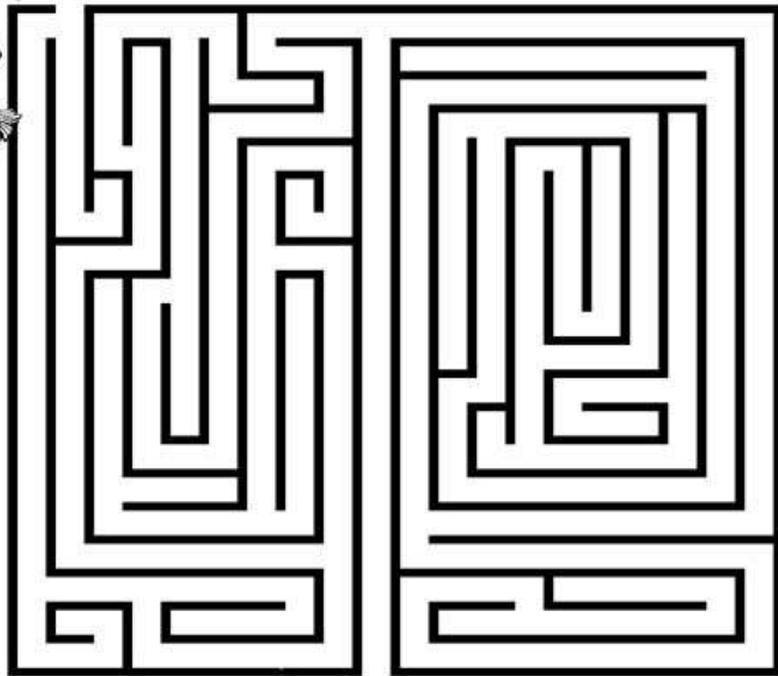
farmer

garden



# Scarecrows

Help the scarecrow find the cornfield.



# Scarecrow Cryptogram

Can you figure out what the phrase is?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
		21											19	6											

24 22 14      15 16 3 6 6 7      15 16 3 6 6 7

9 21 8 17 14 21 17 3 1      20 12 8 17 18 9      22 5 9

15 5 14 16 18 9      8 16 16      18 8 7      22 14      1 8 13 14 9

22 5 9      15 16 3 6 6 7      15 16 3 6 6 7      22 8 19 18 9

24 3      9 21 8 17 14      24 22 14      21 17 3 1 9      8 1 8 7

At the top is a KEY that lists all the letters from A thru Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number.

The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.



# SCARECROWS

Scarecrow is a compound word. A compound word is a word made from two words. Scare + crow = Scarecrow. Match the following two words to make a compound word.

- |          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 1. scare | alls    |
| 2. sun   | crow    |
| 3. hay   | yard    |
| 4. barn  | stack   |
| 5. over  | flowers |

Write the compound words on the lines below.

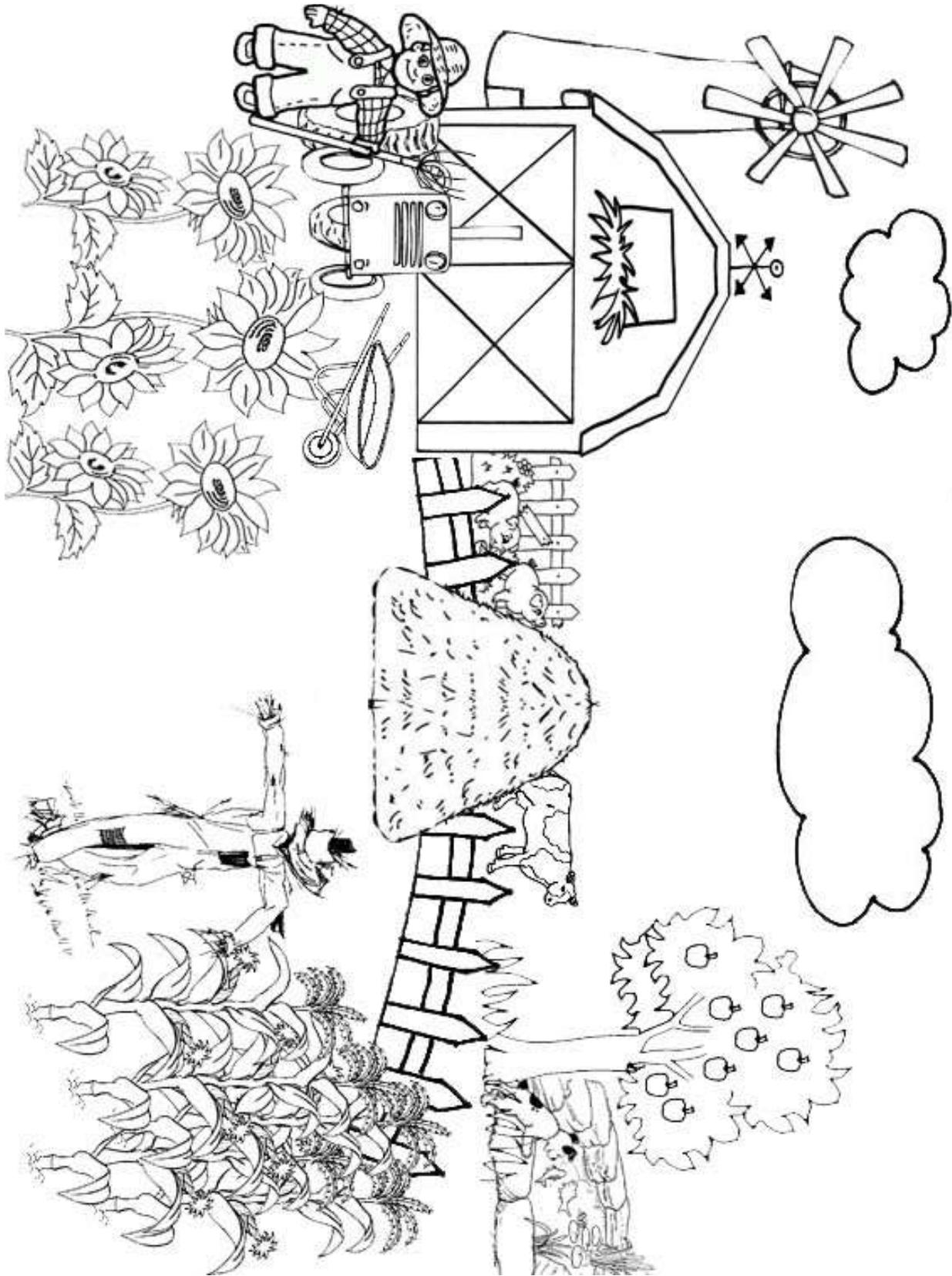
1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

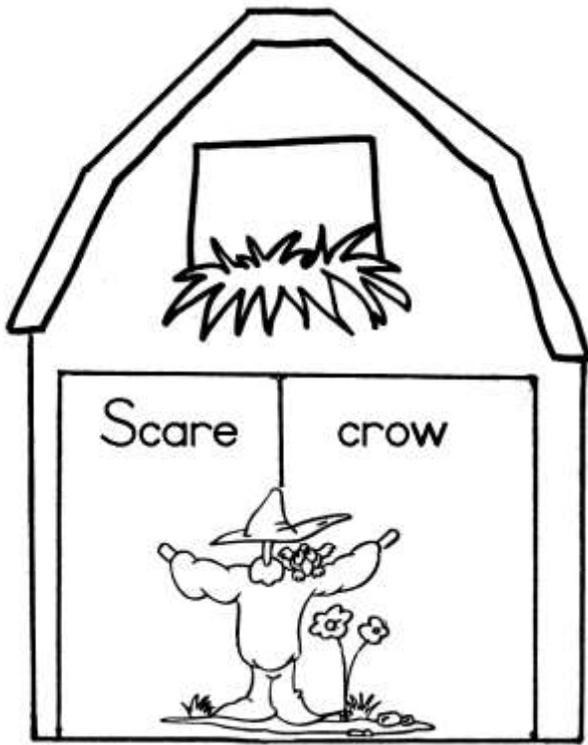
4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_



Label the items in the picture that are compound words.

Choose a compound word. On the barn write the compound word and illustrate the word. You can use one barn outline with the word and illustration or use two barn printouts one for the compound word and one with the illustration. This makes a great display, especially in a school hallway.



Scarecrow

Cornfield

Hayloft

Pigpen

Wheelbarrow

Haystack

Barnyard

Overalls

Fishpond

Cornstalk

Farmhouse

Pitchfork

Hilltop

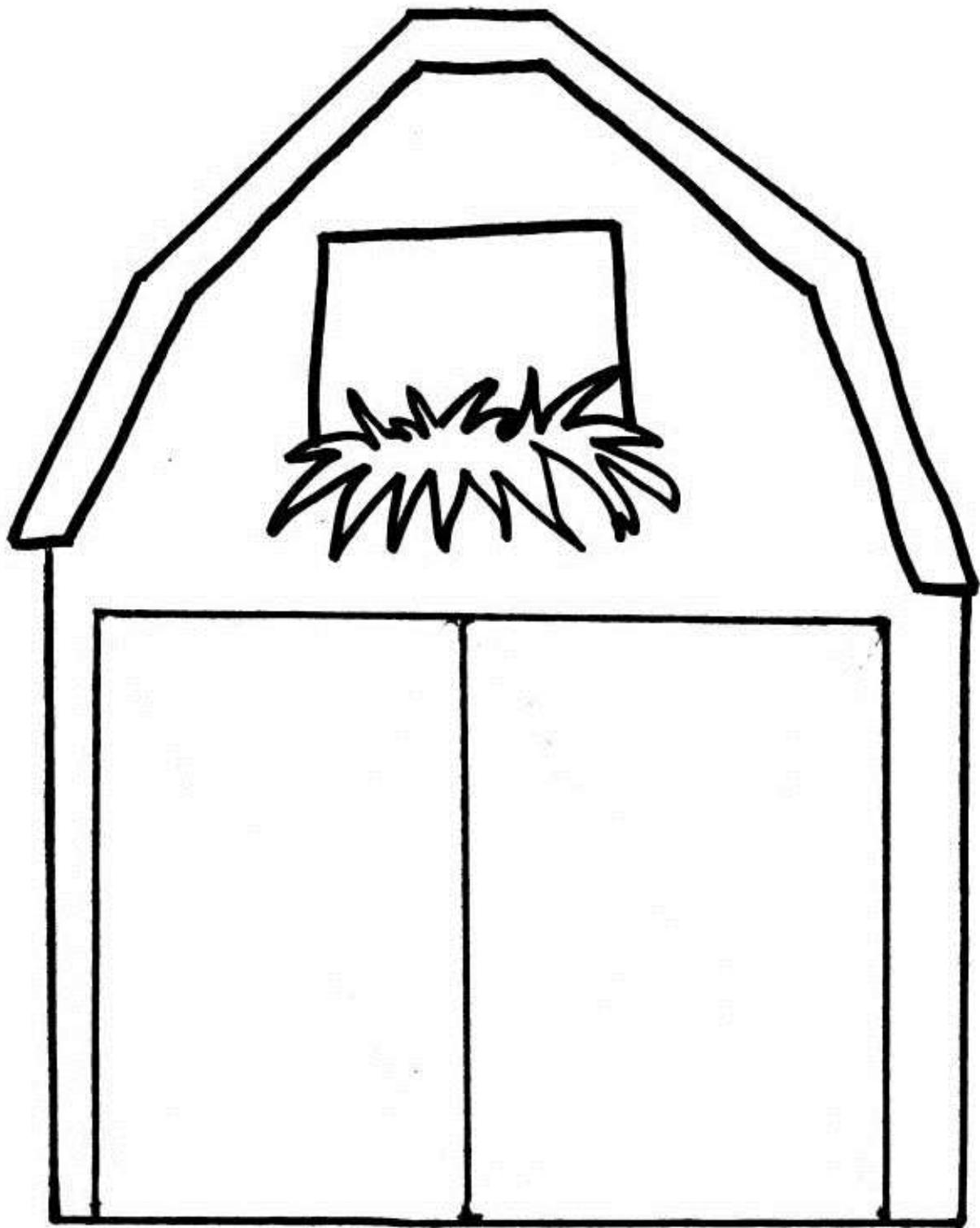
Windmill

Hayloft

Barnyard

Sunflower

Sunbeams



Look across, diagonally, and down to find the compound words.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Scarecrow Word Search



BARNYARD

CORNSTALK

FISHPOND

HAYSTACK

PITCHFORK

SCARECROW

WINDMILL

CORNSTALK

FARMHOUSE

HAYLOFT

PIGPEN

WHEELBARROW

OVERALLS

SUNFLOWERS



A to Z Kids Stuff [www.atozkidsstuff.com](http://www.atozkidsstuff.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_



We're the farmer's scarecrows  
We scare away the birds,  
We keep the farmer's corn safe  
Without any words.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid).

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Scarecrow standing in the field  
On a bright and sunny day,  
Don't forget to do your job  
Scare the hungry crows away!

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten sets of three horizontal lines: a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line.

# Name the Scarecrow

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Read the clues on the chart. Write each scarecrow's name.

	 crow	 gloves	 hat	 scarf	My name is...
1	yes	yes	yes	yes	Emma
2	yes	no	yes	yes	
3	no	yes	yes	yes	
4	yes	no	yes	no	
5	yes	no	no	no	
6	no	no	yes	yes	
7	no	yes	no	no	
8	no	no	yes	no	
9	no	yes	yes	no	
10	no	no	no	no	
11	yes	yes	yes	no	
12	yes	no	no	yes	



Emma



Clark



Alex



Riley



Jake



Bruce



Carlos



Gilbert



Harvey



Jonas



Lee



Hank

# Answers:

Page 1: 1. straw. 2. birds. 3. harvest time.

Page 2: 3,000 years ago. scare birds away.

Page 3: 1. False. 2. farm birds 3. wooden frames

Page 5: 1. True. 2. False. 3. True

Page 6: 1. scarecrows. 2. boys, men, girls.

Page 7: Lower population due to the plague.

Page 10: move, shine, make noise

Page 11: Making Words

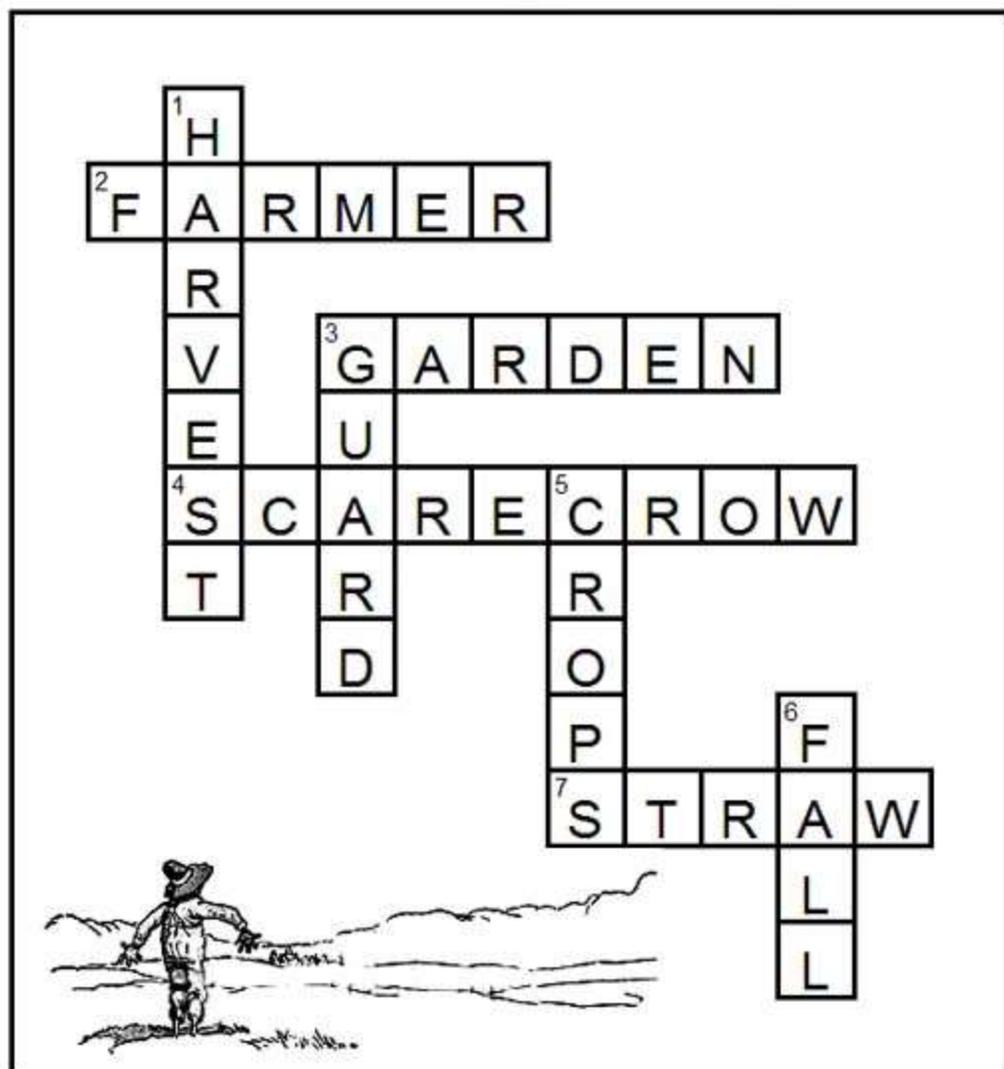
Words that can be made from the word Scarecrow.

are	car	care	rare
scare	care	a	ware
crow	row	rows	cow
cower	or	wore	sore
war	wear	ear	soar
rear	swore	ears	sear
was	ace	race	rowers

# Scarecrow Criss Cross

Fit the words into the squares.

scarecrow      harvest      crops      guard  
 straw          fall          farmer      garden





A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
8	25	21	18	14	15	20	22	5	4	23	16	10	19	3	6	26	17	9	24	12	13	1	2	7	11

T H E F L O P P Y , F L O P P Y  
 24 22 14 15 16 3 6 6 7 15 16 3 6 6 7

S C A R E C R O W G U A R D S H I S  
 9 21 8 17 14 21 17 3 1 20 12 8 17 18 9 22 5 9

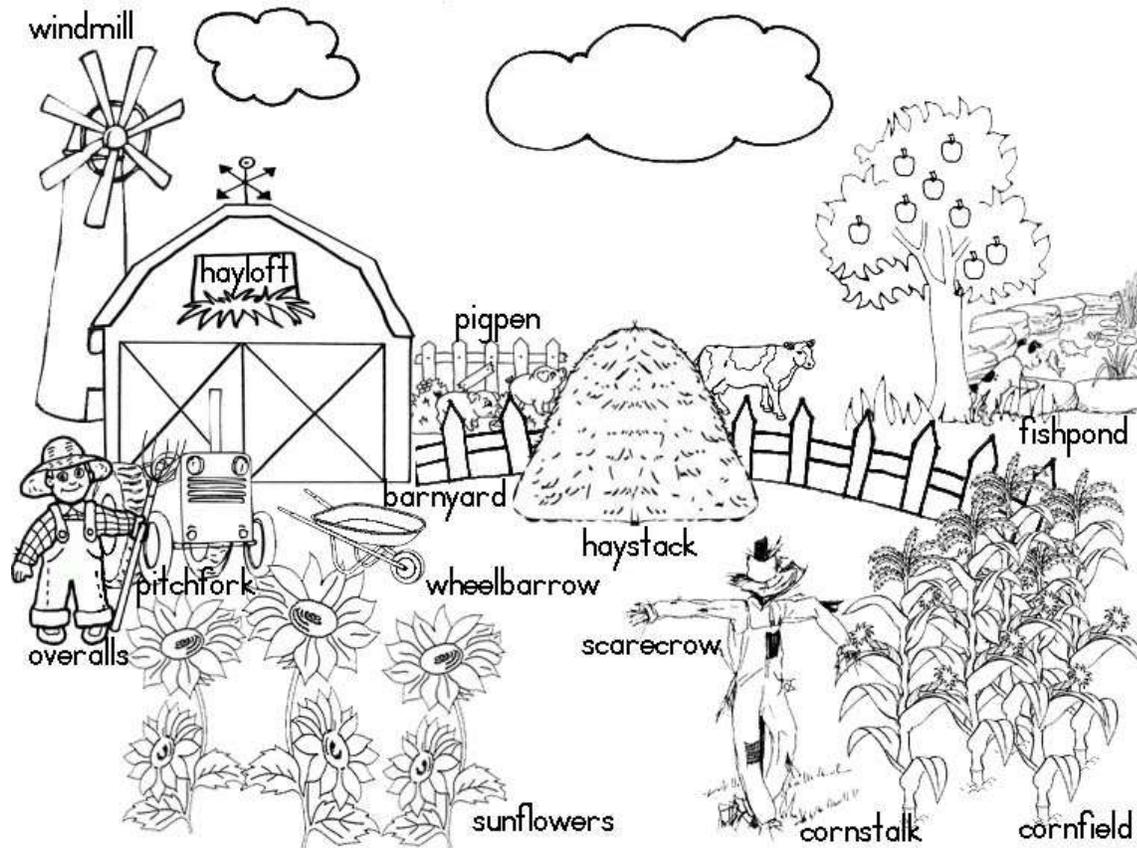
F I E L D S A L L D A Y . H E W A V E S  
 15 5 14 16 18 9 8 16 16 18 8 7 22 14 1 8 13 14 9

H I S F L O P P Y , F L O P P Y H A N D S  
 22 5 9 15 16 3 6 6 7 15 16 3 6 6 7 22 8 19 18 9

T O S C A R E T H E C R O W S A W A Y .  
 24 3 9 21 8 17 14 24 22 14 21 17 3 1 9 8 1 8 7

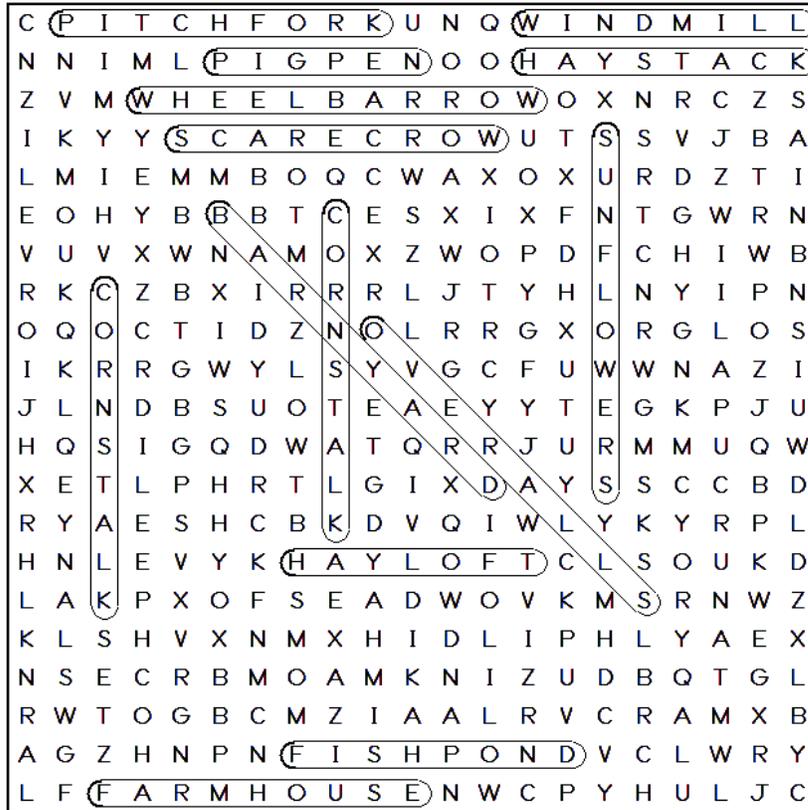
Page 15: scarecrow, sunflowers, haystack, barnyard, overalls

Page 16 Answers Compound Words Farm Picture



barnyard, cornfield, cornstalk, fishpond, hayloft, haystack, pigpen, pitchfork, overalls, scarecrow, sunflowers, windmill, wheelbarrow

### Scarecrow Word Search



- |           |            |          |             |
|-----------|------------|----------|-------------|
| BARNYARD  | CORNSTALK  | FISHPOND | HAYSTACK    |
| PITCHFORK | SCARECROW  | WINDMILL | CORNSTALK   |
| FARMHOUSE | HAYLOFT    | PIGPEN   | WHEELBARROW |
| OVERALLS  | SUNFLOWERS |          |             |

Name the Scarecrow

- 1=Emma, 2=Bruce, 3=Carlos, 4-Jake, 5-Jonas, 6=Lee  
 7=Clark, 8=Alex, 9=Harvey, 10=Gilbert, 11-Hank, 12=Riley