

Nonfiction



Apples from Farm to Table

by Paula Kramer

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**PAIRED
READ**

A Dairy Treat

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Reread

Skill: Sequence

Phonics

Variant vowel spellings
with digraphs: *oo, u*

High-Frequency Words

after, buy, done, every,
soon, work

Content Standards

Social Studies

Economics

Word count: 384**

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**The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.



Education

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A



Essential Question

How do we get our food?



by Paula Kramer

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Chapter



In the Orchard

Who doesn't like apples? There are many different kinds. They can be red, yellow, or green. They can even have stripes!

Apples make a sweet, healthy snack. You may have heard, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away." That means that apples are good for you.

Apples are full of vitamins and minerals.

Look inside an apple and you will find seeds. Apple seeds can be planted. They might grow into apple trees, but growing apple trees from seeds is tricky. Many of the seeds won't grow into trees.



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An orchard is a farm where fruit trees grow.

Growers found a better way to grow apples. They grow new apple trees from pieces of old ones. This way of growing something is called **grafting**. Growers can also plant small apple trees that they buy from **nurseries**.



After it's planted, an apple tree will not have fruit for about four years.



Hot days and cool nights help the trees grow.

Every spring, flowers grow on the big apple trees. In time, the flowers fall off the trees. Tiny apples start to grow where the flowers used to be.

Summer is the growing season for apples. The summer heat and sunshine help the fruit grow big and ripe.

Soon the apples are **mature** and ready to pick. In the fall, they're ready for harvesting. Most apples are picked by hand, because heavy machines might **bruise** them.

Some growers allow visitors to pick their own apples. Have you ever gone apple picking? It can be a lot of fun!



The best way to pick an apple is by twisting it.




Chapter



From Warehouse to Store

Most growers hire workers to **harvest** apples. The pickers put the apples into large bins. The full bins are loaded into trucks that take the apples to a warehouse.



At the warehouse, the apples are washed and waxed. The wax keeps the apples crispy and fresh.

Alistair Berg/Photodisc/Getty Images

At the warehouse, apples are stored in refrigerated rooms.

Next, warehouse workers sort the apples. Apples of the same size are packed together into boxes. When that's done, the boxes are loaded onto trucks. Truck drivers take the apples to stores all over the country.

Workers check each apple carefully and pack only the best.





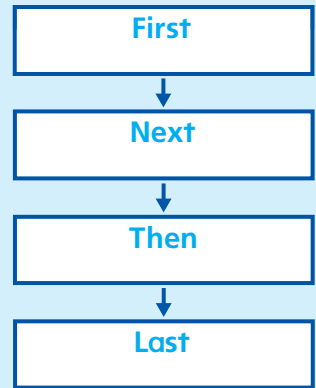
Most grocery stores display many varieties of apples.

Most of the fresh apples go to food stores. People who work in the stores unload the apples from the truck. After they bring them inside, they stack the shiny apples just so. Now the apples are ready for you to buy! Don't they look good?

Respond to Reading

Retell

Use the chart to help you retell *Apples from Farm to Table*.



Text Evidence

1. What happens after the blossoms fall off the trees? **Sequence**
2. What's the first thing that happens to the apples at the warehouse?
Sequence
3. Is this book fiction or nonfiction?
How do you know? **Genre**

Compare Texts

You read about how apples get to the store. Now read about how yogurt is made.

A Dairy Treat



Mmmm . . . yogurt! It's a delicious dairy treat that can be enjoyed as part of a meal. Yogurt also makes an easy snack that's good for you.

Read the chart on page 14. It shows how yogurt is made.





Steps	What Happens
1	Fresh milk is heated. The heat kills bacteria.
2	Yogurt starter is added. This makes the milk thick and tangy.
3	The mixture is heated again.
4	The yogurt is cooled before fruit is mixed in.
5	The yogurt is poured into plastic cups and sealed.
6	The cups are packed into boxes.
7	Refrigerated trucks deliver the cups of yogurt to stores.

MCT/McClatchy-Tribune/Getty Images



Make Connections

Which do you like better—apples or yogurt? When do you eat them? **Text to Self**

Glossary

bruise (BREWZ) cause damage (*page 6*)

grafting (GRAFT-ing) joining a piece of one plant to the stem and root of another plant to create a new plant (*page 4*)

harvest (HAHR-vuhst) to gather a crop (*page 7*)

mature (muh-CHUR) fully grown (*page 6*)

nurseries (NUHRS-reez) places where plants are grown for sale (*page 4*)

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Focus on Social Studies

Purpose To sort goods and services

What to Do

Step 1

Goods are the things you buy. Things that workers do are called *services*. Look at this list:

apples pick apples
yogurt drive a truck
milk load boxes

Step 2

Draw a chart like this one.

Goods	Services

Step 3

Write the goods and services in the chart. Then write another good or service in the chart.

Thinkmark

The Topic

What did you learn about how apples grow? How do apples get to stores?

Author's Purpose

Why do you think the author wrote *Apples from Farm to Table*? If you were the author, what other information would you include?

Make Connections

You read about how apples and yogurt get to stores. Which steps in the process are the same? Which are different?