



Activity

Play Weather Harvest!

Follow the instructions on the game board to see if you can harvest a crop.

How many times did you experience a weather setback?
What other risks are involved in farming or ranching?

Locate the weather map in the Deseret Morning News and find a location in the United States right now that is experiencing good harvesting weather.

This winter's snow is next summer's ice cream

No, the ice cream is not made out of snow, and snow is not made out of milk. But there is a relationship. Can you trace ice cream back to the weather event called snow? Snow and rain, or precipitation, are very important to farmers and ranchers. A dry year can be a disaster for a producer of crops and livestock. These agricultural producers (farmers and ranchers) work with the four seasons and hope they will get the moisture they need to produce vegetables, fruits, grains, hay, milk and meat.

Too much precipitation can also be troublesome to people who work on the land. Flooding destroys crops, causes soil loss or erosion, creates livestock health problems and causes damage to buildings. Farmers and ranchers hope for the best when it comes to the weather and find ways to work with weather to grow crops and animals to produce the things we use every day. What do you think the weather will be on your next birthday? How sure are you of your prediction? Farming and ranching are a risky business. People can't control the weather, but we can learn about the seasons, weather patterns or the climate, and how nature helps people to produce the things we need from the land.

So how does snow this winter make next year's ice cream? This winter's snow becomes next year's water for irrigation, which waters crops, like hay. The hay is fed to dairy cows that then produce milk, which is made into ice cream. When you are on the slopes or just watching the snow fall this winter remember the water will be used for our food, clothing, and many other things; including ice cream! Precipitation Rain, snow or hail: all of which are formed by condensation of moisture in the atmosphere and fall to the ground.



START



Early rains sprout new seeds. Move ahead 4 spaces.



Beautiful day! Roll again.



GREAT HARVEST

Rains delays your harvest. Go back 2 spaces.

Early snow delays harvest. Go back 4 spaces.

Waiting for better weather. Skip your next turn.

Early frost destroys half your crop. Go back 4 spaces.

Rain causes mold to ruin your cut hay crop. Go back 6 spaces.



Beautiful day! Roll again.

WEATHER

Hail damages your crop. Go back 3 spaces.

Beautiful day! Roll again.

A gentle rain waters your crops. Go forward 3 spaces.



Farmers work with nature. Soil nutrients, planting, and harvest are things farmers must learn to do. Crops may need to be harvested in late summer and fall. This is a weather harvest game to help you learn about weather and farming.

A severe drought dries up your crop. Return to Start.

Number of players: 1-4

Goal: Harvest your crop first.

Before the game:

1. Draw small pictures of crops that appear on the game board and tape them to pennies. These are your playing pieces.
2. Find a die or create your own by numbering six small pieces of paper from 1-6; fold them up and select them from a cup.

Tornado destroys newly planted field.
Return to Start.



Snow delays planting.
Go back 1 space.

Late frost.
Return to Start.



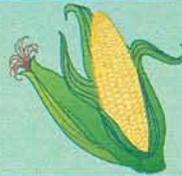
R HARVEST



Gentle rain delays your crop.
Go ahead 2 spaces.



The 5-day forecast is for warm and clear weather.
Move ahead 5 spaces.



Flooding destroys seedlings.
Return to Start.

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weed and insect control, machinery work, crop records
farmers can control and manage. Farmers cannot control the weather.
planted more than once in the spring. Most crops are ready for
d fall but may be wiped out by a single weather event. Play the
see if you will be able to bring in your crop.



Too many days of cold wet weather delay crop.
Go back 4 spaces.

Beautiful day!
Roll again.



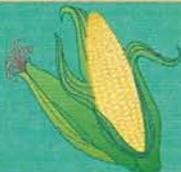
Lightning causes crop to burn.
Go back 4 spaces.

How to play:

1. Each player puts a crop on START and takes turns rolling the die, moving the crop, and following the directions on each square. Some squares are crop images. Each kind of crop appears three times. If you land on the crop image that is your playing piece, roll again.
2. Keep playing until each player brings in his or her crop. You don't need an exact roll to bring in your harvest.
3. The first person to bring in his or her harvest wins.

Beautiful day!
Roll again.

High winds lay your wheat crop down.
Go back 4 spaces.



Warm dry day makes an easy harvest.
Move ahead 1 space.

