

## Tortilla Factory

Grains are one of the basic food groups and can be consumed in a number of tasty ways. Identify uses for grain products in our food.

### You will need:

Corn tortillas

Salsa

Cheese

Lunch meat such as ham or turkey

Paper plates

Napkins

Knife

*The Tortilla Factory* by Gary Paulsen (*Corn is Maize* by Alikei may be substituted)

Unshucked ear of corn

### How to:

1. Ask children what corn is used to produce.
2. Show children an ear of corn pointing out the silks, outer leaves, and shuck to reveal the kernels of the ear.
3. Introduce the concept that corn is used to make many breads including tortillas.
4. Read the book *The Tortilla Factory* by Gary Paulsen to the group.
5. Take time to discuss each picture within the book.
6. Recap with the children the process of growing corn, harvesting, and bread making.
7. Ask children if they have eaten a tortilla. Discuss how tortillas can be prepared.
8. Provide students an opportunity to eat a tortilla by topping one with salsa and cheese, and then folding it in half.
9. Prepare a second tortilla with a slice of ham or turkey and cheese.
10. Roll the tortilla up and slice off spirals for each child to sample.



For more resources to connect children to agriculture visit [AgInTheClass.org](http://AgInTheClass.org).