

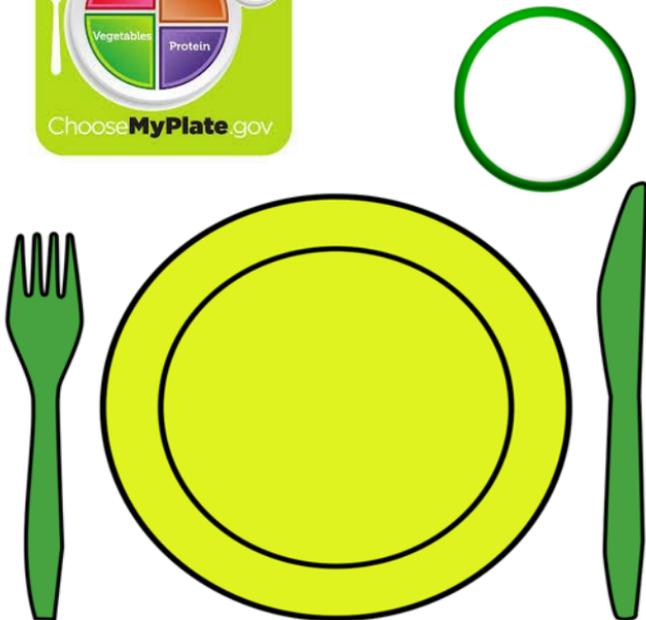


FUN AT THE FARMERS' MARKET

**Return any of the following activities to
your local farmer and receive a prize!**

Make Your Own Plate!

What items can you find at the farmers' market to make your own plate?



Scavenger Hunt!

Can you find the following items at your farmers' market?

Find three vegetables: _____

Find one food you have never tried before: _____

Find two red foods: _____

Find a friendly farmer and ask their name: _____

Find something round: _____

Find something hard: _____

Find something smelly: _____

Find your favorite food: _____

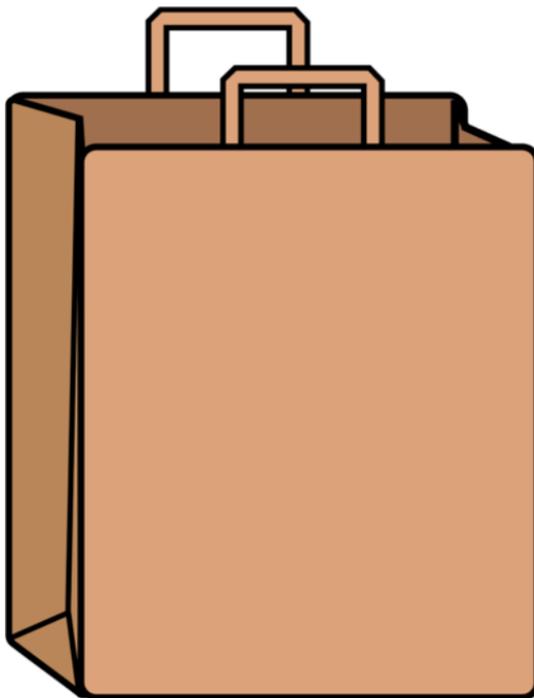
Find a food you don't like: _____

Find a food you want to try: _____

Find two green foods: _____

Fill the bag!

Draw some items you would like to buy at today's farmers' market!



Massachusetts Farm Facts

If you like to eat, Massachusetts agriculture is important to you. But agriculture is about so much more than food--our farmers produce fiber, ornamental plants and wood products, and we're home to a thriving equine industry.

Preserving Massachusetts Land...

- **Farmers and forest land owners participate in conservation programs that prevent soil erosion, preserve and restore wetlands, clean the air and water, and enhance wildlife habitat.**
- **USDA reports that Massachusetts agriculture saw an increase in farmland acreage in production for the first time since at least World War II!**

Direct Sales and Massachusetts ...

- **Massachusetts has 292 farmers markets.**
- **Massachusetts is first in New England for direct sales of farm products to consumers. With sales of nearly \$48M, Massachusetts farmers were responsible for 30% of New England's total direct sales and Massachusetts ranks fifth nationally for direct market sales.**
- **Massachusetts ranks sixth nationally in number of CSA Farms with 431, but is #1 by percentage of farms with a CSA!**

Did you know that...

- **Massachusetts ranks 3rd in the U.S. for farmland value at \$10,430 per acre, over four times the national average of \$2,487.**
- **The average farm operator has been on the same farm for 21 years and is 58 years old.**
- **Female farm operators account for 33% (2,507) of the farm operators in Massachusetts.**

Massachusetts Farm Bureau's Story

The Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF) is the Commonwealth's largest farm organization with membership that represents farms of all shapes and sizes throughout Massachusetts. We are "The Voice of Agriculture."

Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental grassroots organization that analyzes problems and formulates action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity, and social advancement and thereby promoting national well-being.

As the agriculture industry faces new challenges in the future, Farm Bureau will be there to assist our members in tackling those challenges. We will be their advocate on county, state and national issues. MFBF has a solid record for positive action on issues concerning landowners in Massachusetts, including protecting the environment, private property rights, a safe food supply, affordable taxes and preserving open space and working landscapes.

You Met A Farmer Today – Become Their Friend!

You don't have to be a farmer to join Farm Bureau! For just \$25 you'll help farmers have a unified voice to develop policies across town lines and have access to information on all the latest trends in agriculture and issues that challenge local farms.

Please become a Friend of Local Farmers at: www.FOLFS.com.

Have a question? Email us at info@mfbf.net