

STEP  
**1**

READY TO READ

STEP INTO READING®

A SCIENCE READER

# Corn Aplenty



by  
Dana Meachen Rau

illustrated by  
Melissa Iwai



## Dear Parents,

Welcome to the fascinating world of non-fiction! Here you will find natural science, biography, history, sports . . . and more.

**STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** include a huge selection of high-interest topics to engage young readers. No child can resist finding out about such topics as:

- Animals, both fuzzy and fierce
- Brave, bold, and brainy people
- Wild weather, such as twisters
- Life in the time of ice mummies or the Age of Dinosaurs
- Supersized trucks that leap into the air

Why should children read non-fiction? The benefits are enormous. First, children build their vocabularies, encountering words that may not come up in ordinary conversation but are needed to increase reading comprehension.

Second, non-fiction introduces children to a writing style that supports learning. When explaining new concepts, non-fiction writers often compare one thing with another. Comparisons make learning easy and fun.

Third, children build their store of background information. Context helps readers make important content connections, whether they are reading about history, biography, or natural science.

Last but not least, non-fiction books raise questions and motivate children to find answers.

The Common Core State Standards call on us to prepare children for college and careers by teaching them to read, write, and discuss non-fiction. **STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** can help children meet this goal while enjoying informative, age-appropriate books.

Happy reading!

Myra Zarnowski  
Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education  
Queens College, City University of New York

Look for an F&P Text Level on the back of every book.

## Dear Parent:

Congratulations! Your child is taking the first steps on an exciting journey. The destination? Independent reading!



**STEP INTO READING®** will help your child get there. The program offers five steps to reading success. Each step includes fun stories and colorful art. There are also Step into Reading Sticker Books, Step into Reading Math Readers, Step into Reading Write-In Readers, Step into Reading Phonics Readers, and Step into Reading Phonics First Steps! Boxed Sets—a complete literacy program with something for every child.

### Learning to Read, Step by Step!



#### Ready to Read Preschool–Kindergarten

• big type and easy words • rhyme and rhythm • picture clues  
For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.



#### Reading with Help Preschool–Grade 1

• basic vocabulary • short sentences • simple stories  
For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.



#### Reading on Your Own Grades 1–3

• engaging characters • easy-to-follow plots • popular topics  
For children who are ready to read on their own.



#### Reading Paragraphs Grades 2–3

• challenging vocabulary • short paragraphs • exciting stories  
For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.



#### Ready for Chapters Grades 2–4

• chapters • longer paragraphs • full-color art  
For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

**STEP INTO READING®** is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides. Children can progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading, no matter what their grade.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!

*For Charlie and Allison—D.M.R.  
For Dad and Sherry—M.I.*

With grateful acknowledgment to Frank Lange for his time and expertise in reviewing this book.

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[www.randomhouse.com/teachers](http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers)

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Summary: Two children watch a local farmer grow a crop of corn and as the corn develops—from seed to harvest time—so does the friendship between the children and the farmer.

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First Edition

Random House Children's Books supports the First Amendment and celebrates the right to read.


STEP INTO READING



# Corn Aplenty

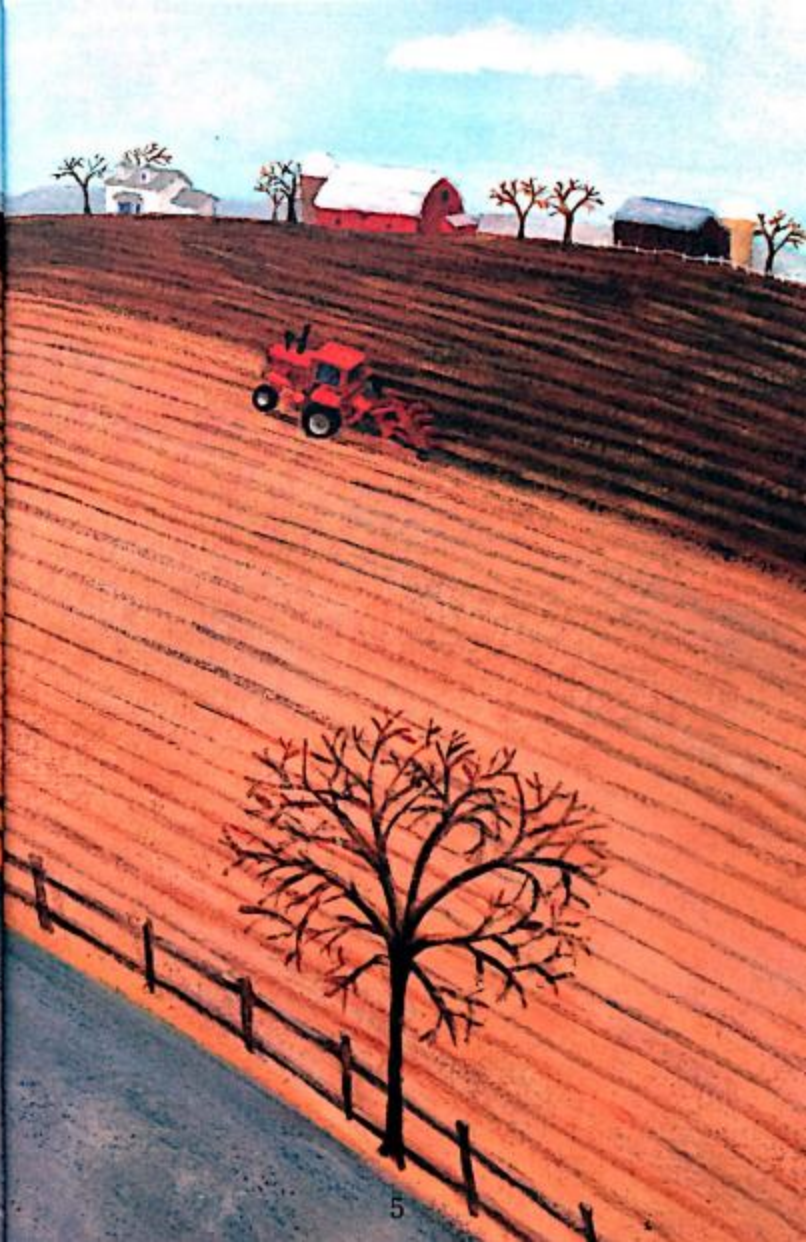


by Dana Meachen Rau  
illustrated by Melissa Iwai

Random House  New York



We drive by a farm.





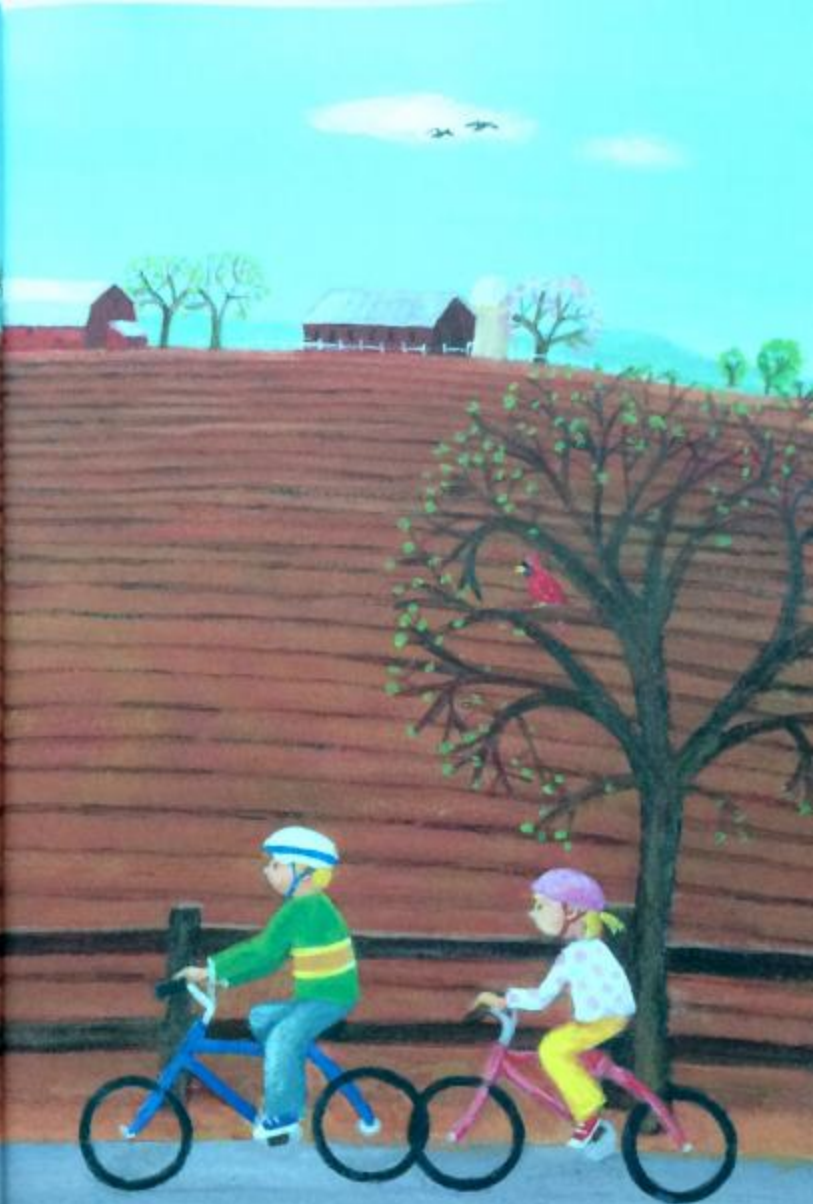
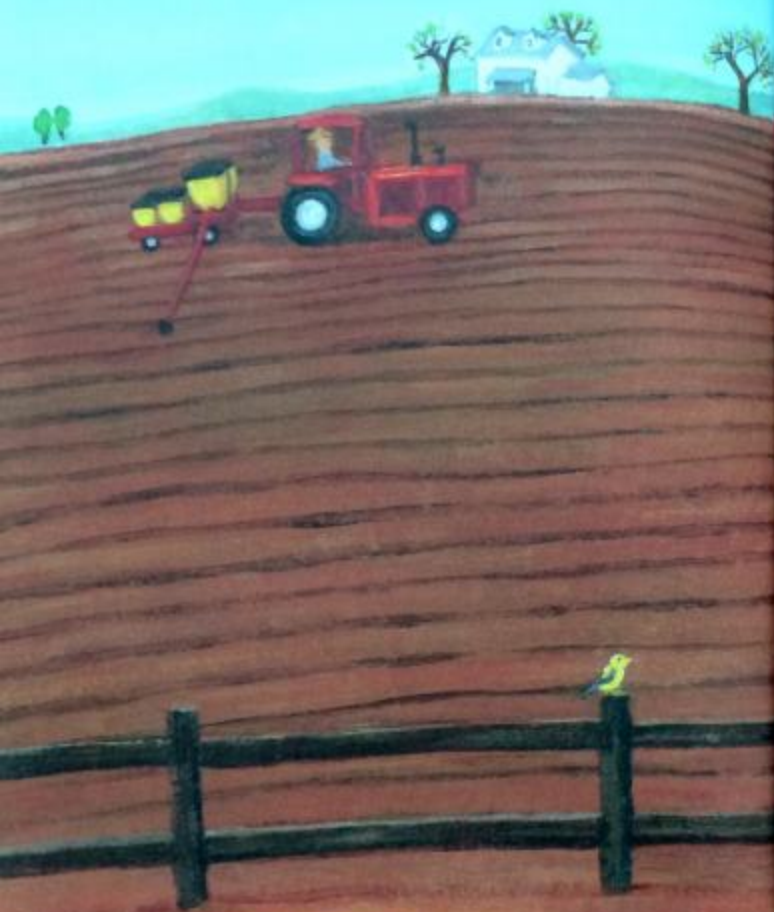
The farmer  
plows the field.



The dirt is  
brown and bumpy.

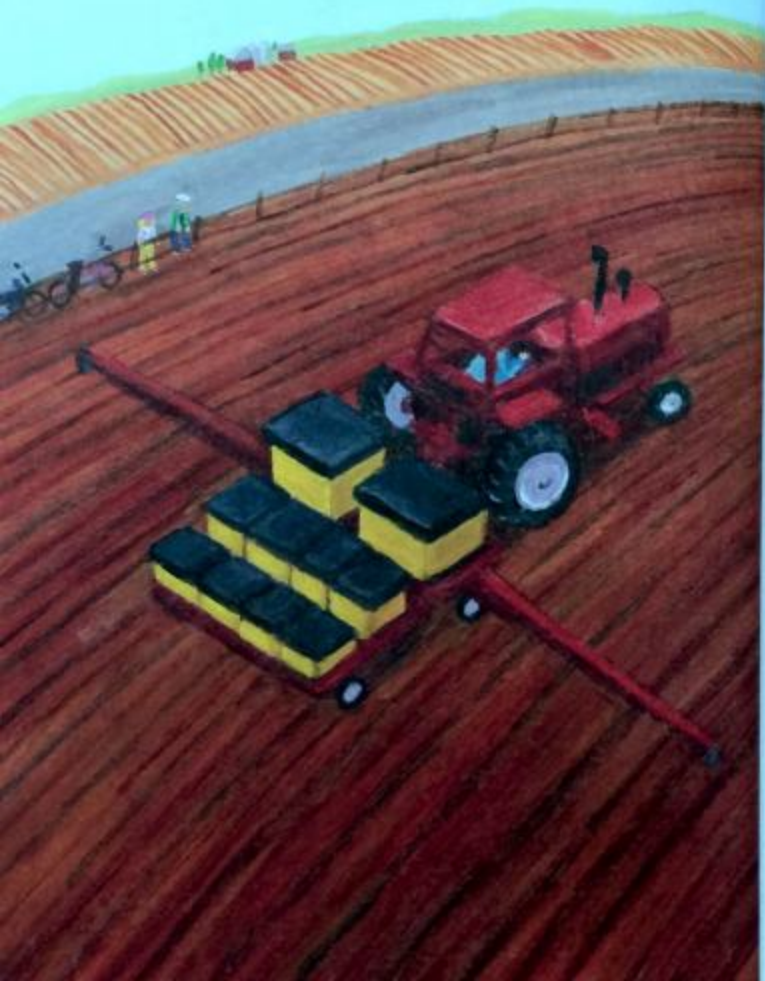


We ride by the farm.





The farmer  
plants the seeds.



The seeds are  
yellow and small.



We skip by the farm.





The farmer  
feeds the plants.



The seedlings are  
green and soft.



We stop by the farm.

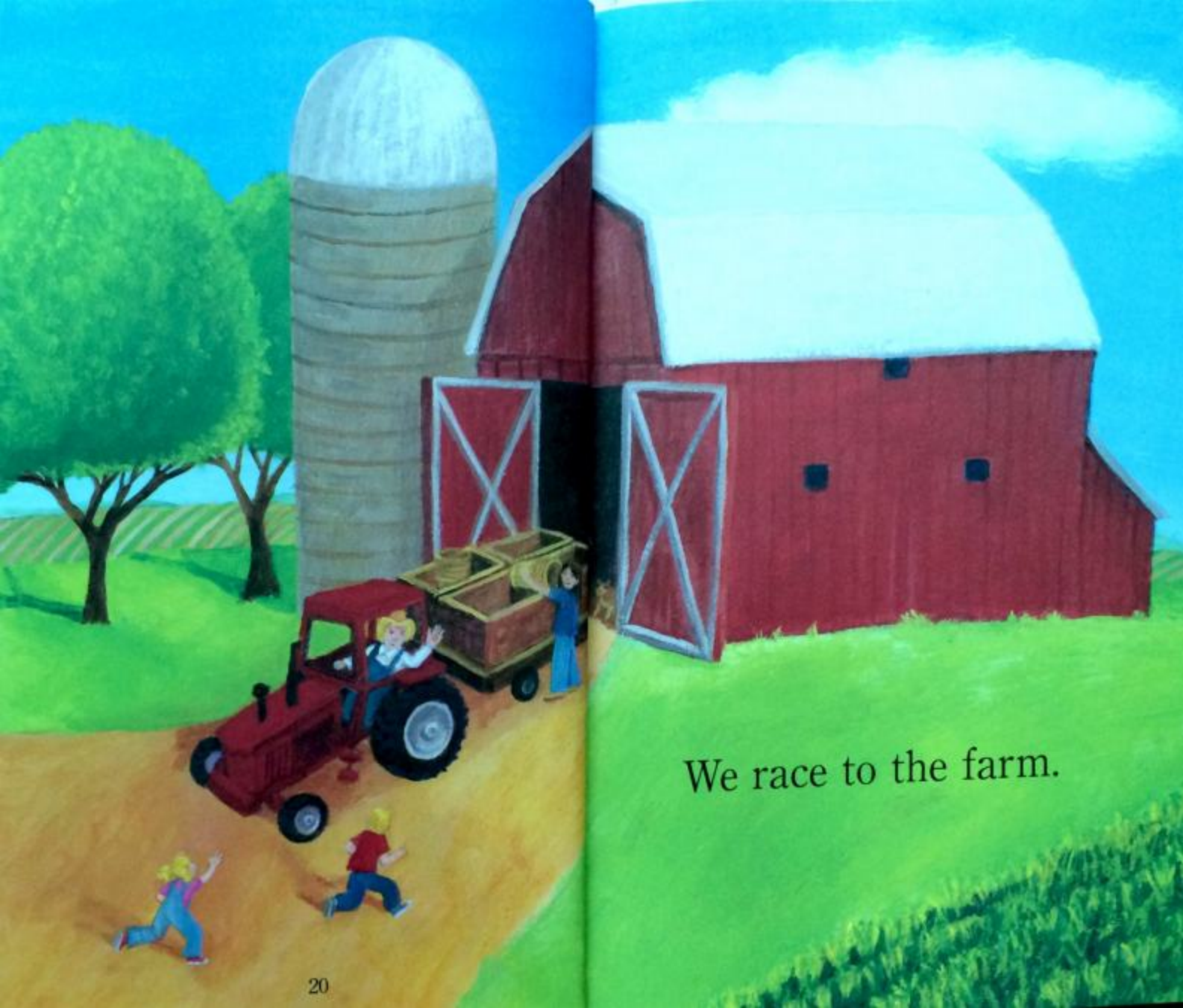




The farmer  
waters the plants.



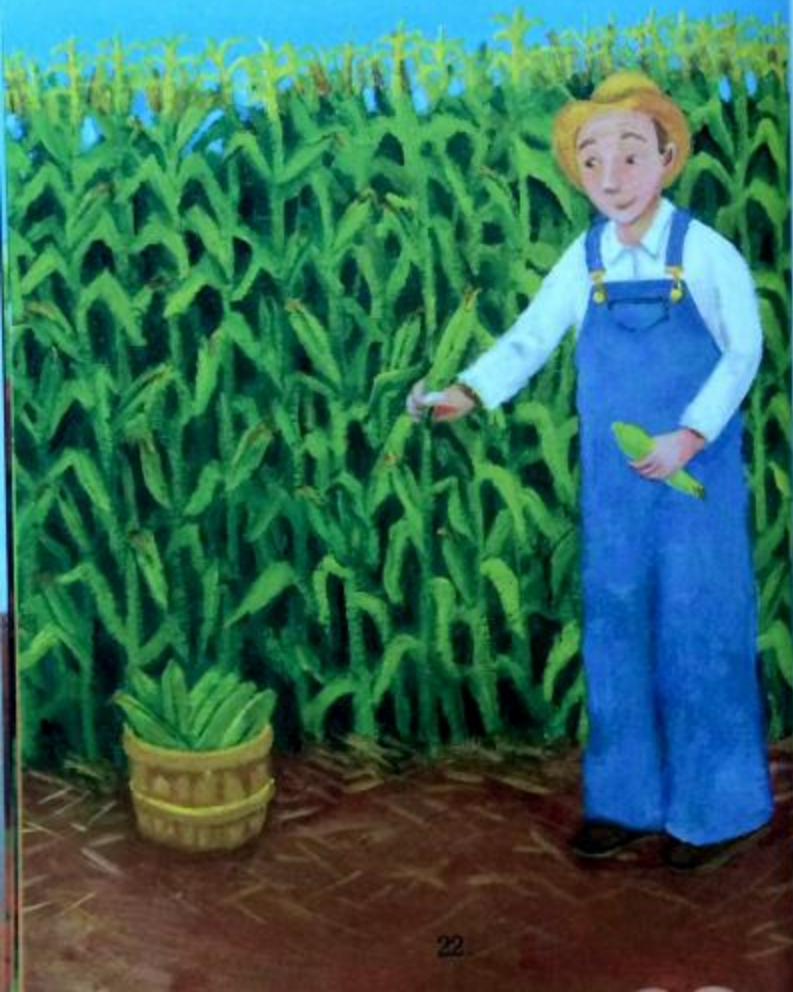
The stalks are  
strong and tall.



We race to the farm.



The farmer  
picks the corn.

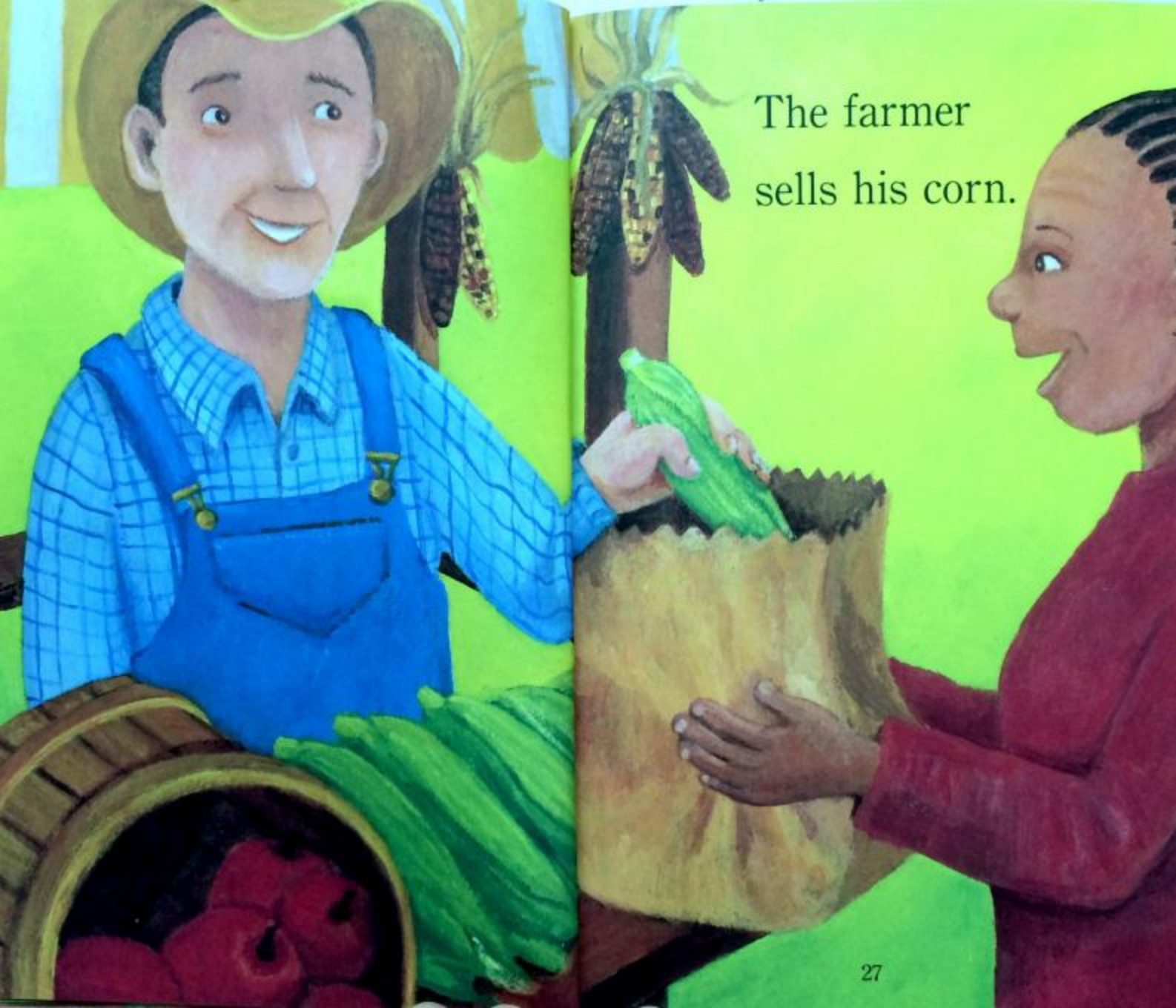


The bins are  
full and heavy.

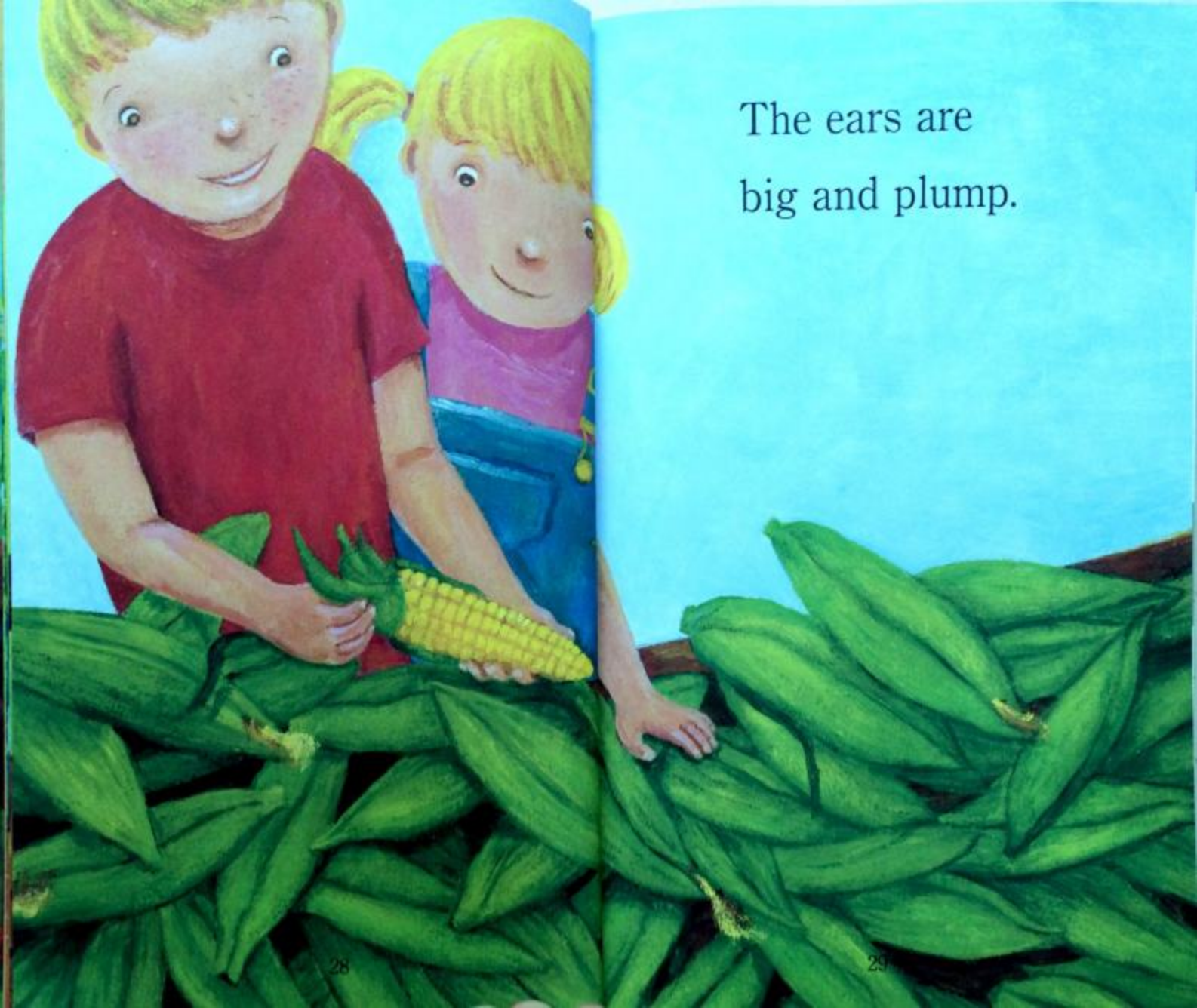


We walk  
to the farm stand.





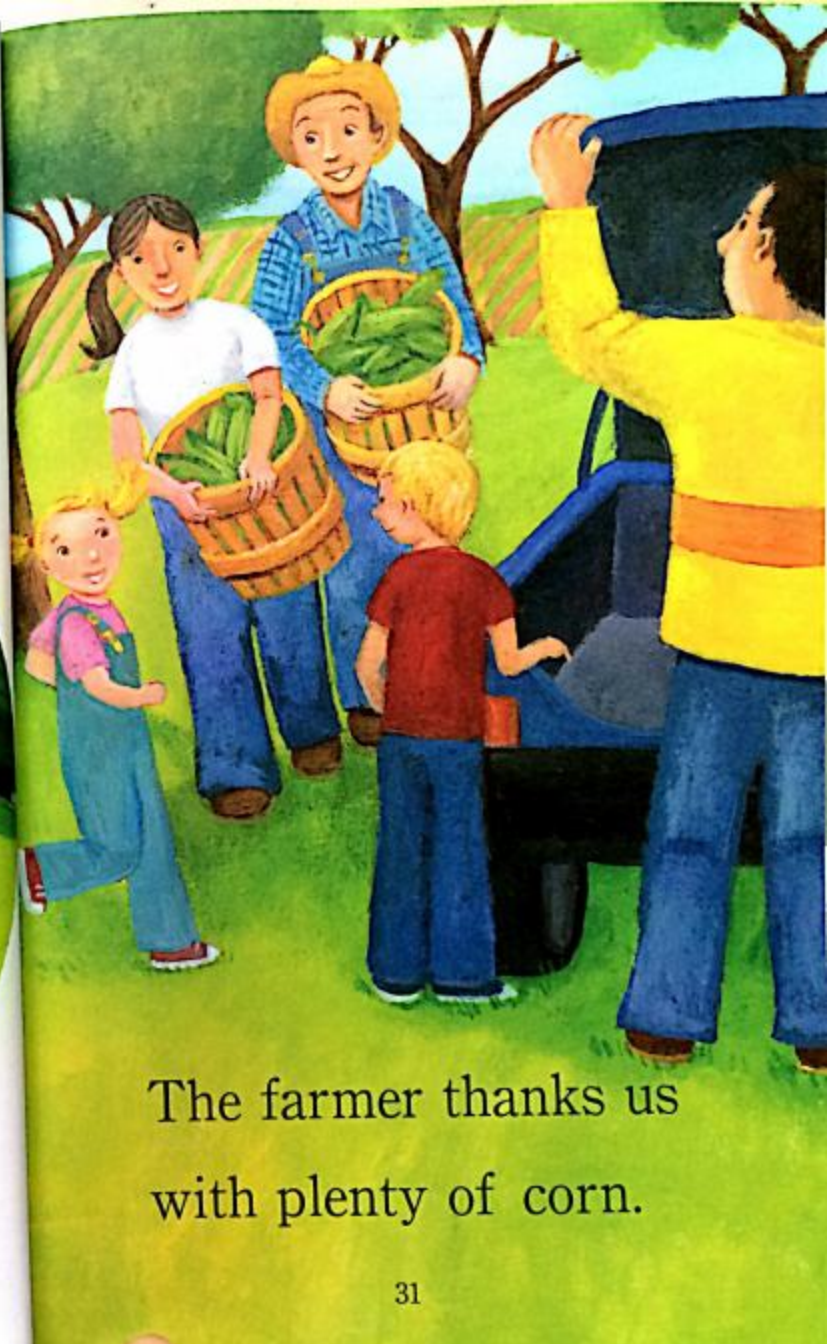
The farmer  
sells his corn.



The ears are  
big and plump.



We help count.  
We help carry.



The farmer thanks us  
with plenty of corn.

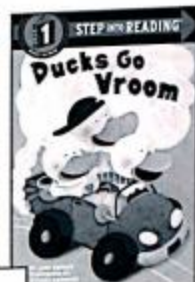


We thank him  
with dinner!



Have you read these Step Into Reading books?

Put a check next to each one you've read!



Are you ready for the next Step?



activities, information about Common Core, and more books to read, visit  
[StepIntoReading.com](http://StepIntoReading.com)



# STEP INTO READING®

READY TO READ

Do you see what is growing at the neighbor's farm? From plowing to harvesting, watch the corn grow!



## Learning to Read, Step by Step!



**Ready to Read**    **Preschool–Kindergarten**

Does your child know the alphabet? Is your child eager to begin reading? Step 1 is the perfect first step!

**Big Type and Easy Words • Rhyme and Rhythm • Picture Clues**



**Reading with Help**    **Preschool–Grade 1**



**Reading on Your Own**    **Grades 1–3**



**Reading Paragraphs**    **Grades 2–3**



**Ready for Chapters**    **Grades 2–4**

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