Objective
Students will complete short stories about agriculture by filling in the blanks with different parts of speech, as indicated. Students will make up their own stories. Students will make changes to parts of well-known stories and analyze how the changes in certain details change the meaning of the stories.

Background
The average American farmer produces food and fiber for over 150 people, both in our country and around the world. Twenty years ago the average farmer produced enough food for about 67 people. Producing food and fiber on the farm and moving it around to people is our nation’s number one industry.

Oklahoma’s prairie grasslands provide good food for raising beef cattle. Our wide open spaces are good for growing winter wheat—our biggest crop. But Oklahoma farmers grow many different kinds of crops. Cotton, peanuts and soybeans are all important Oklahoma crops. Oklahoma farmers also grow corn, oats, sorghum, pecans and small crops of watermelon, strawberries, blackberries, peaches and even pine trees, for making paper products.

Language Arts
1. Read and discuss background material.
2. Review nouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives.
   — Hand out the student worksheets.
   — Students will read through the stories.
   — Students will fill in the blanks, using the part of speech indicated underneath each blank. Encourage students to use their imaginations.
   — Students will share their finished stories with the class.
3. Students will make up their own stories or paragraphs and leave blanks for their classmates to fill in.
4. The story on Worksheet B is loosely based on “The Little Red Hen.” Students will read through the story and discuss how the moral of the story changes as they change the parts of the story.
5. Students will use other familiar fables as the basis for creating their own fables.

Visual Art
1. Students will create illustrations for their stories.

Extra Reading

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Vocabulary

barn— a building used chiefly for storing grain and hay and for keeping farm animals or farm equipment in

farm— a piece of land used for growing crops or raising livestock

farmer— a person who cultivates land or crops or raises animals

industry— the businesses that provide a particular product or service

prairie— a large area of level or rolling grassland

crop

produce— to cause to be or happen

product— something produced

wheat— a cereal grain that can be made into a fine white flour used mostly in breads, baked goods (as cakes and crackers), and pasta (as macaroni or spaghetti) and that is used in animal feeds

Elliott, David, and Holly Meade, On the Farm, Candlewick, 2008.
Hodge, Deborah, and Brian Harris, Up We Grow! A Year in the Life of a Small Local Farm, Kids Can, 2010.
Olson, Nathan, Farm Patterns, Capstone, 2007.
Petersen, Cris, Century Farm: One Hundred Years on a Family Farm, Boyd's Mills, 2009.
Provensen, Alice, and Martin Provensen, The Year at Maple Hill Farm, Sagebrush, 2001.
Trumbauer, Lisa, Living in a Rural Area, Pebble, 2005.
On the ___________ farm, many __________ to the barn. The __________ are usually the __________ ones there. They __________ and squeak until someone comes to __________ them. The __________ finally settle down and __________ the __________ morning away in the __________ of the ________ sun.

Planting a __________ is easy. First, make a __________ hole, and place the __________ in it. __________ dirt __________ over the top, and __________ down the __________ with your hand. __________ the __________ over the __________ until it is wet, but not soaked. Make sure it gets __________. Wait and see the __________ __________ appear.
Fill in the blanks in the story below, using the part of speech printed underneath the line.

One day a ________ red ________ was ________ in the barnyard when she came across some ________ of wheat.

“I think I’ll ________ these ________ and ________ some wheat.

Who will ________ me? Then we can ________ some ________ bread.”

“Not I!” ________ the cow.

“Not I!” said the ________.

“Not I!” ________ the lamb.

So the ________ ________ the ________ all by herself.

After several ________ the ________ grew. The ________ worked ________ to ________ and ________ the wheat.

At last the ________ was ready to ________ some ________ Everyone ________ the ________ They all wanted to ________ it.

“Oh, No!” the ________ said. “I ________ all by myself to make this ________ Now I am going to ________ it ALL BY MYSELF!

And that is just what ________ did.