

From Soil to Snack:

Caring for Our Planet Every Step of the Way



Farm/La ferme

An area of land used for growing crops or raising animals. A farm could just be a large group of fields, or could also have buildings and other structures, such as a house, a barn, a shop for large equipment, sheds for small equipment, grain bins for storing dry grains, or silos for holding feed for animals.



Farmer/L'agriculteur

A farmer is a person who grows plants for food. They plant seeds and take care of the land so their crops can grow big and healthy. Farmers use technology and machines to grow their crops and they work hard to make sure there is enough food for people to eat.



Soil/Le sol

The substance on the surface of the Earth that plants grow in. It contains minerals, water, air, organisms, and nutrients. Dead plants break down in soil, adding more nutrients.



Consumer/Le consommateur

A person who buys something to use. For example, a consumer buys food to eat, or consume. In ecology, a consumer is an organism that consumes other organisms or organic matter, like plant debris.



Decomposer/Le décomposeur

A living organism, such as worms, insects, fungi, and micro-organisms, that break down dead plants and return nutrients to soil.

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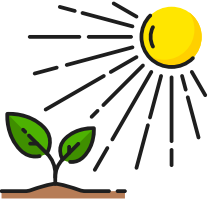
Processor/Le transformateur

A place where work is done to create something on a large scale, such as a mill that grinds wheat grain into flour.



Store/Le magasin

A building where people can buy things, such as a grocery store or a clothing store. Some stores have special names, such as a bakery—a store where you can buy bread and other baked goods.



Producer/Le producteur

A producer produces—or makes—something. When we talk about plants, a producer is a plant that makes its own food using sunlight (photosynthesis). A farmer is a different kind of producer.



Nutrient/L'élément nutritif

A substance that provides what plants or animals need to live. For plants, nutrients are chemical elements like nitrogen. People need plants like grains to provide the nutrients they need, such as carbohydrates, vitamins, and mineral.



Plant/La plante

A living organism that grows in soil or water. A plant usually has roots, a stem, leaves, flowers, and it produces seeds. When we talk about farming, we usually talk about plants that are crops, like corn or oats.