

# Strawberry Fields

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Johanna loved strawberries. They were her favorite fruit. Today, she was going to a strawberry farm. It was her first time. She'd never gone before. Before, she had always just bought them at the store. It was sort of weird to think about a farm of strawberries instead of just a package at the store.



When she arrived, she was surprised. They did not grow on trees! They did not even really grow on big bushes. They grew on something like vines. Low plants in long rows were heavy with berries. There were so many. Straw was packed around the plants, and there were dirt paths between rows.

She was given a waxy cardboard basket. She could pick as much as she wanted. The more she picked, the more she would have to pay. She wasn't sure how much to get. She started filling her basket. It went pretty fast, because the berries were so big. They were heavy and juicy. She picked a basket, eating a few as she did. They were so good! The sun had made them sweet.



The basket was quickly filled. She took it back to the barn to pay for it. They sorted it into small cartons, called pints, and bigger ones called quarts. There were two pints in each quart. She ended up getting 3 quarts and 1 pint. That was almost a whole gallon of berries!



When she went home, she quickly cleaned the berries and put them in the fridge. Some, she could use to make jam or jelly. Others, she could eat fresh or with sugar sprinkled on top. She thought about crushing some over some ice cream, or freezing some for later, too. There were so many things to do with strawberries, and they were all delicious!

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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What is Johanna going to pick?
  - A. Blueberries
  - B. Blackberries
  - C. Raspberries
  - D. Strawberries
  
2. How many times has Johanna done this before today?
  - A. never
  - B. once
  - C. twice
  - D. three times
  
3. Why is Johanna surprised when she gets to the farm?
  - A. She didn't know how hard it was to pick them.
  - B. She thought strawberries grew on trees.
  - C. She thought it would be more fun.
  - D. She didn't realize how far away the farm was.
  
4. How many strawberries does Johanna pick?
  - A. 1 pint and 3 quarts
  - B. 2 pints and 2 quarts
  - C. 3 pints and 1 quart
  - D. 4 quarts
  
5. Which of these is NOT one of Johanna's ideas for using the berries?
  - A. jam
  - B. fresh with sugar on top
  - C. crushed over ice cream
  - D. cobbler

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