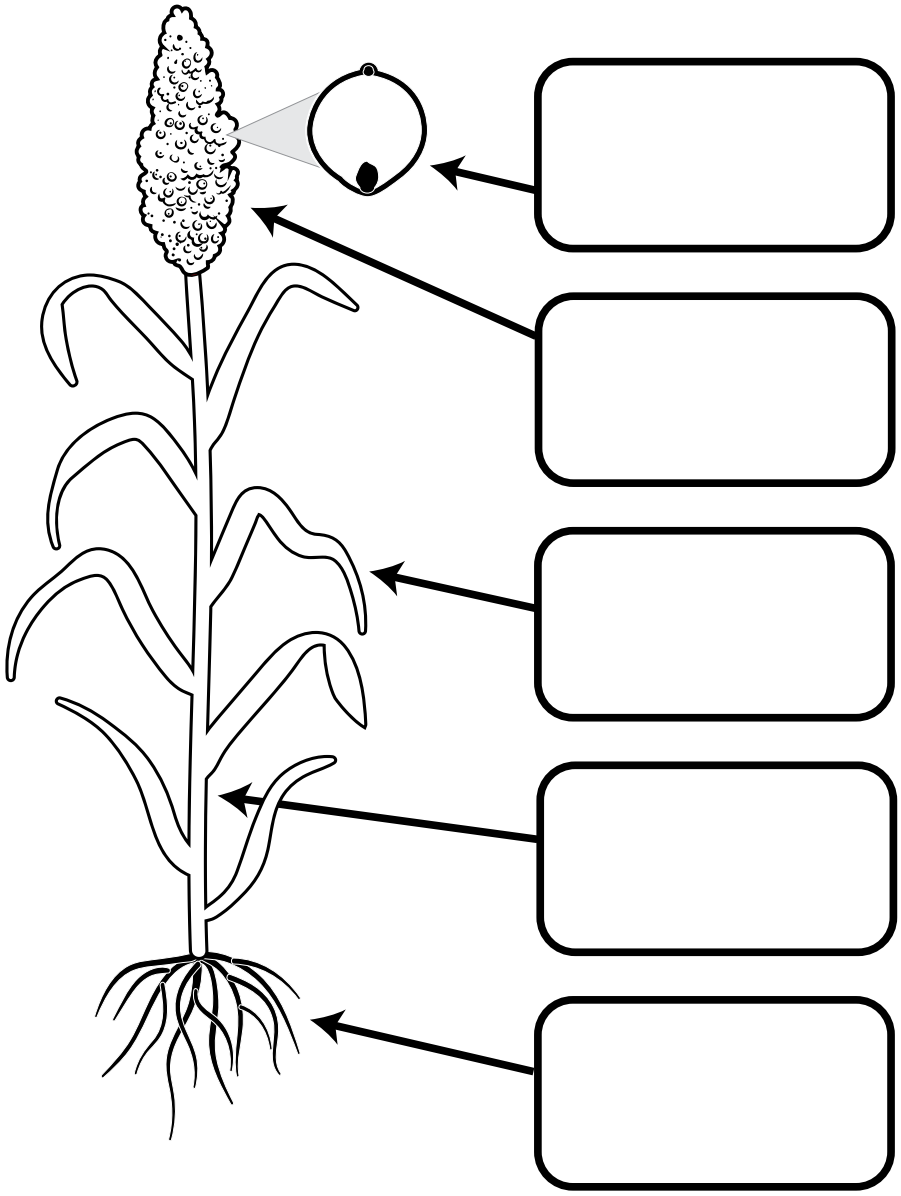
Learning About SORGHUM

Name_____Date_____

1. The growth of a sorghum plant

Use the Super Star Sorghum! poster to label the parts of the sorghum plant.



FUN FACT:
At maturity, the panicle contains between 750 and 1,250 sorghum grains/seeds!

SORGHUM
Nature's Super Grain

Working in small groups, use the Sorghum Growth and Development poster to answer the following questions using a separate sheet of paper:

a) Describe the stage of growth pictured on the labeled diagram pictured on page 1.

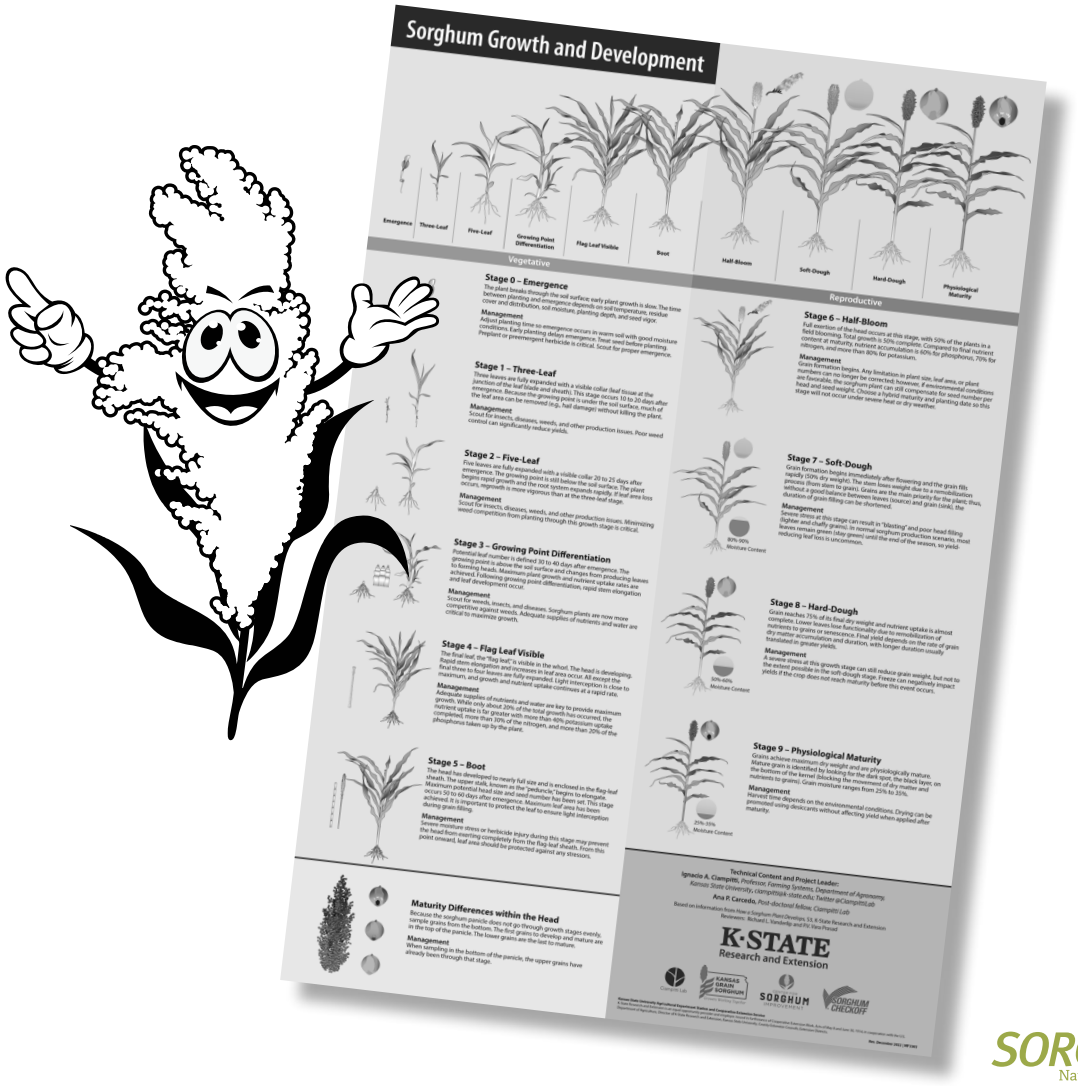
b) The first six stages of growth of a sorghum plant are known as “vegetative.” What is the term for the next four stages of growth?

c) What does stage 0 refer to on this poster?

d) About how many days does it take for the plant to reach the boot stage?

e) How does the information listed beneath each plant stage help the farmers who grow sorghum?

a) How can you tell when sorghum reaches stage 9 (maturity)?
Hint: Look closely at the sorghum grains that your teacher shared with the class.



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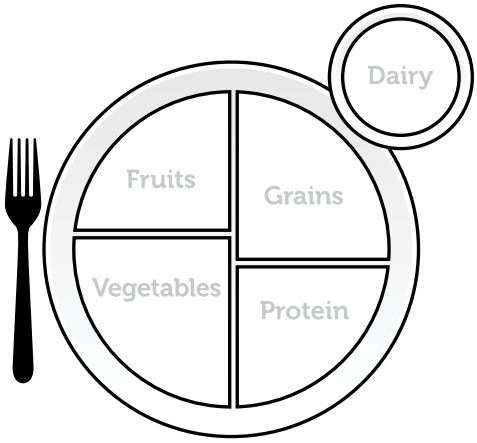
Use the word bank and the Super Star Sorghum! poster to help you with the remaining sections and puzzle.

2. Sorghum Nutrition



a) Where does sorghum belong on the MyPlate food guide?

b) **TRUE** or **FALSE** - Whole grain sorghum and whole grain sorghum flour contribute many nutrients that are important for good health.

c) Use the Super Star Sorghum! Poster to list at least three important nutrients that sorghum provides?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

WORD BANK:
Archaeology
Environment
Gluten-free
Habitat
Nutrition
Sorghum
Water
Whole grain

d) Sorghum is _____-free, which means it is a safe food for people with celiac disease.

e) Sorghum can be enjoyed many ways, including in cooked dishes, breakfast bowls, and even popped as a snack! Can you plan a meal or snack menu that includes sorghum? Try to include as many MyPlate groups as you can in your menu.

Write or draw your suggested menu inside the box for breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack.

f) Set a goal for how you will try sorghum, either at home or at school:

_____

_____

3. Sorghum and the Environment

a) Sorghum is considered drought tolerant, which means it uses less _____ than other crops.

b) **TRUE** or **FALSE**: Sorghum helps to improve the soil, adding back nutrients that are important for growing plants.

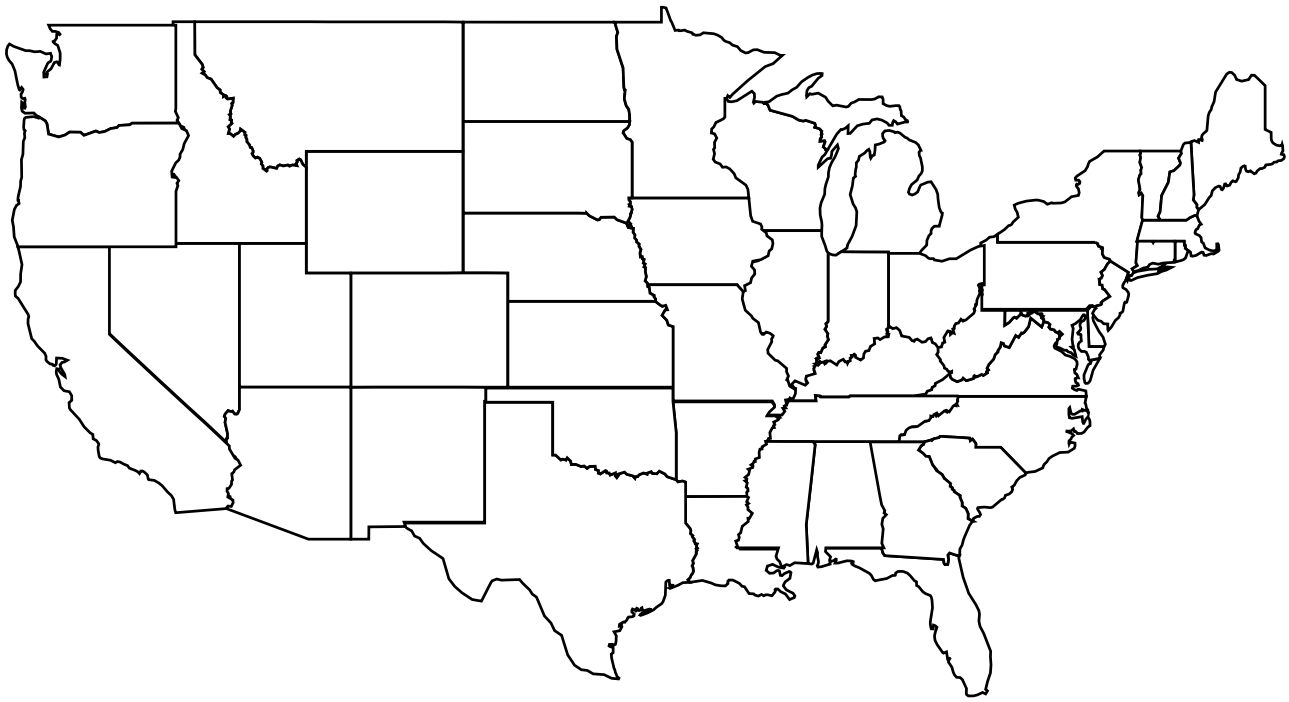
c) Sorghum provides a _____ for deer, quail, pheasants and many other birds. The leaves and stalks left after harvest also provide protection from heat and cold.

4. Sorghum around the world

a) Using a classroom world map, locate the areas where sorghum is most widely eaten today. (China, India, Nigeria, Sudan and Ethiopia)

b) _____ is the study of human history that looks at artifacts and other physical remains. A dig near the Egyptian-Sudanese border known as the ancient Nabta Playa astronomical site found that sorghum was used 8,000 years ago! Can you find Nabta Playa on the world map?

c) The United States is the world's leading producer of _____. On the map be low, label and color the 6 states that produce the most sorghum. (Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas)



5. Scrambled Sorghum

1. Unscramble each word from the word bank.
2. Use the marked letters to solve the second puzzle.
3. BONUS: On a separate sheet of paper, use at least five words from the word bank to write a paragraph or story that shows what you have learned about sorghum.

WORD BANK:
Archaeology
Environment
Gluten-free
Habitat
Nutrition
Sorghum
Water
Whole grain

AOECYORAHLG

46			10							16

HORUMSG

1	19	23	22	15	6	7

TEMNEVNIORN

	41		8			37				47

AATTBIH

5	9		25	29	12	38

RWETA

17	24	43	21	3

OIRNNTUIT

		45		30	14	42	33	

NGUFLEREET

4	13	40	27	44	26			32	39	11

NOEWIRGLAH

34	18	2	20	48		31		28	36	35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	1		9		10	11	12	13	14	15	16

17	18	19	20	21		22	23	24	25	26		27	15	28	29		30	1	

31	32	33	34	35		36	37		38	15	39		40	41	42	43	44	D		

1	45	46	47	48	1	.

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