

In 2024, Indiana was the top producer of popcorn in the United States, with over 95,000 acres being planted. Popcorn is also the official state snack of Indiana.

Popcorn is different than the typical corn cob. Field corn has softer kernels than popcorn, but the hard shells of the kernels allow for the “pop” when heated. There is also a nutritional difference between field corn and popcorn. Popcorn gives one gram of protein in every cup of popcorn.

There are two shapes of popcorn. The butterfly shape, which appears like wings on a butterfly. And there is the mushroom shape, which has a rounded top.

DID YOU KNOW?

Indiana produces enough popcorn to supply 20% of the United States.



STOVETOP POPCORN

Popcorn doesn't only come in a bag ready to be popped. You can also make it on the stove with just a few ingredients. Make sure you ask an adult for help.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place the large pot over high heat and add 3 tsp of canola oil.
2. Allow the oil to heat until it begins to ripple and then add the popcorn to the pot.
3. Place the lid on the pan and turn the heat down to medium.
4. Once the kernels start popping, shake the pot gently to keep the kernels popping.
5. Once the popping slows, remove the pot from the heat and pour into a bowl.
6. Let cool, and add any salt or seasonings. Enjoy!

INGREDIENTS & MATERIALS:

- Canola oil
- Popcorn kernels
- Salt
- 8-quart pot



FIVE SENSES OF POPCORN

MATERIALS:

- Popped popcorn
- Magnifying glass
- Baby wipes

DIRECTIONS:

1. Touch the popcorn with your fingers. Write down how the popcorn felt.
2. Wipe your hands off with a baby wipe.
3. Taste a few pieces of popcorn, write down how it tastes.
4. Hold a magnifying glass up to the popcorn. Write down what you see.
5. Sniff the popcorn. Write down what it smells like.
6. Crush up some popcorn in your hand. Write down any sounds that it makes.
7. Clean up any messes you made and clean off your hands!

TOUCH:

TASTE:

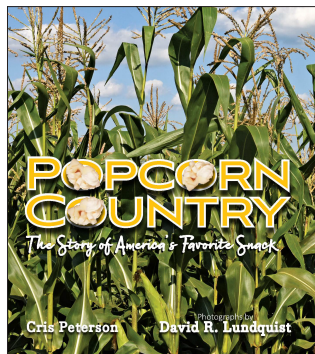
SIGHT:

SMELL:

HEAR:

READ ABOUT IT!

Want to access more resources? Scan the QR code to view the educator guide for Popcorn Country.



Learn more on the science of popcorn by scanning the QR code, or visit:
bit.ly/IASpopcorn



Indiana Activity Sheets are provided by Indiana Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom.

For more information, please contact inaite@infb.org or visit www.infb.org/aitc.



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