



Math



Literacy

FUTURES FARMING

Remember: Don't open your mini M&Ms yet!

THE FARMER'S DILEMMA

A farmer has the opportunity to sell his or her crop before they harvest. For example, if the farmer thinks they might have 150 bushels of corn to sell in the fall, they might sell 100 bushels ahead of time at a higher price.

Why wouldn't the farmer want to sell all 150 bushels ahead of time to make more money?



You have approximately 17-20 M&Ms in your bag. Predict how many of each color there will be:

Blue	Yellow	Red	Orange	Brown	Green

PRE-HARVEST PHASE

Do not open your bag of M&Ms yet. It's time to decide if you would like to sell your crop before you harvest it. Use your estimated numbers above to help you fill out the information below.

PRICES

The grain elevator will pay
\$4.50 now or only \$4.00 after
you open your bag.

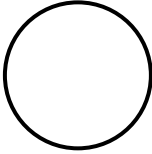
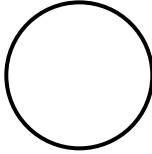
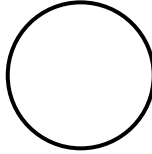
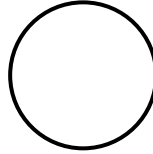
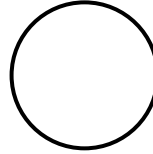
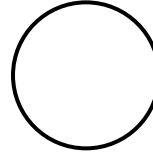
For the green M&Ms, the
grain elevator will also pay
\$4.75 now or only \$4.25 after
you open your bag.

Blue	_____	x \$4.50 =	_____
Yellow	_____	x \$4.50 =	_____
Red	_____	x \$4.50 =	_____
Orange	_____	x \$4.50 =	_____
Brown	_____	x \$4.50 =	_____
Green	_____	x \$4.75 =	_____

Total M&Ms Sold: _____ Total Profit: \$ _____

HARVEST PHASE

It's time for harvest! **Open your bag of M&Ms, but don't eat them yet.** Count how many actual M&Ms you have of each color. Then, set aside your pre-sold M&Ms and record the remaining number of M&Ms below.

Blue	Yellow	Red	Orange	Brown	Green
					

Now, take the information obtained above and use it in the chart on the right to find out how much money you made on the M&Ms that were not pre-sold.

If you oversold any color, place a 0 in the space.

Blue	_____	x \$4.00 =	_____
Yellow	_____	x \$4.00 =	_____
Red	_____	x \$4.00 =	_____
Orange	_____	x \$4.00 =	_____
Brown	_____	x \$4.00 =	_____
Green	_____	x \$4.25 =	_____

Total Profit: \$ _____



Add together the totals you made from pre-harvest and harvest. Overall Total: \$ _____

Did you oversell any of your crops? **YES** **NO**

All colors except green: If yes, how many? _____ x \$4.50 = _____

Green: If yes, how many? _____ x \$4.75 = _____

Total Oversold: \$ _____

Overall Total: \$ _____ - Total Oversold: \$ _____ = Total Profit: \$ _____