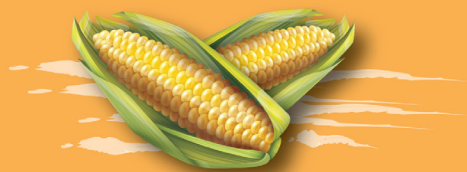


Maize

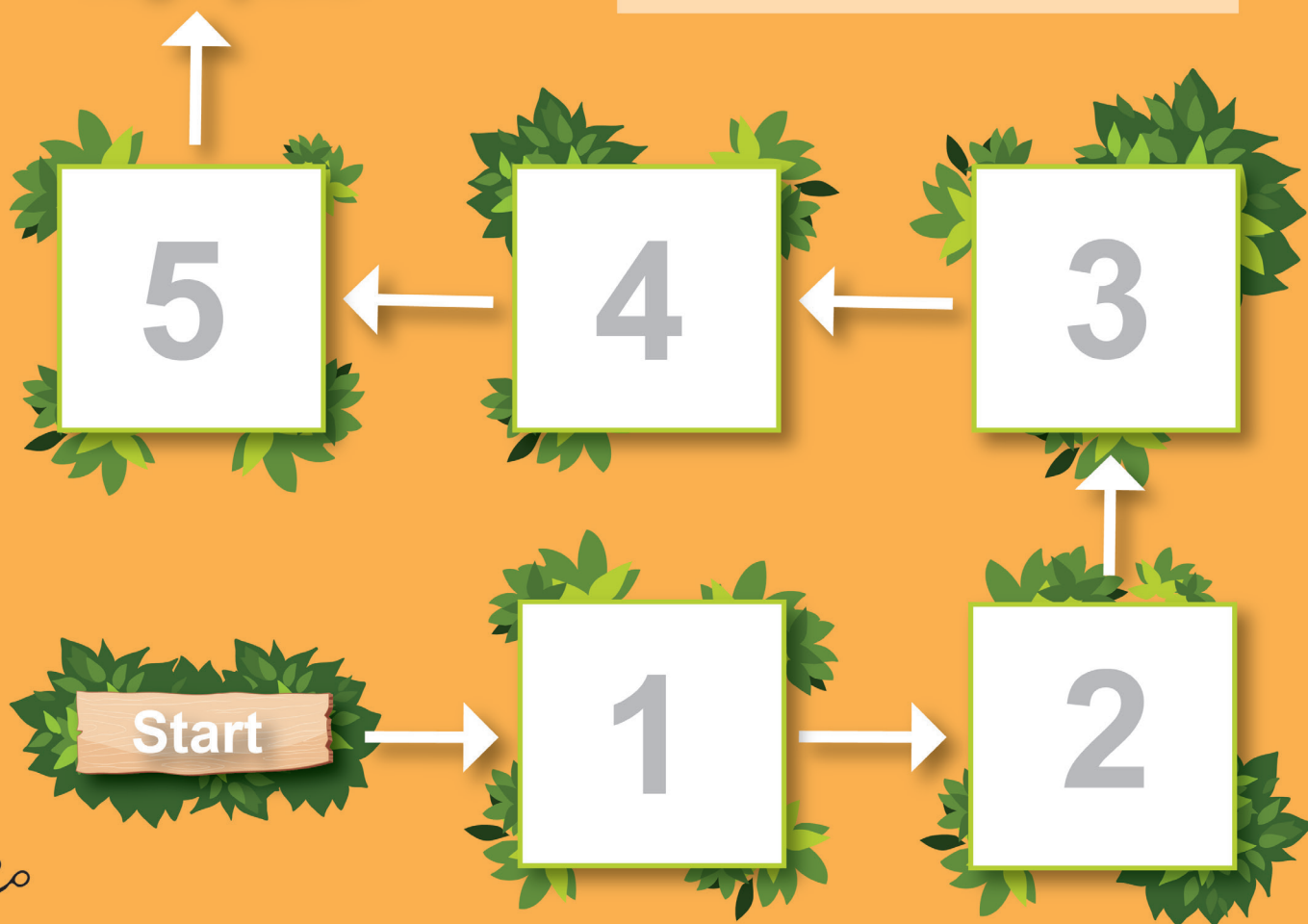


High yield

Game rules:

The 10 pictures below represent different practices for cultivating maize. Only 5 pictures represent good practices. Can you identify them?

First select the good practices, and then cut and paste them in the right order to achieve high yields for maize!



Timely
harvesting

Uneven
sowing of the
seeds

Harvesting
the crop
before
harvesting
time

Clean seed
selection &
appropriate
seed rate

Overflooding
the field with
water, after
planting

Storing the
seeds in a
moist place

Applying
manure
before
planting

Insufficient
weeding,
weeds
competing
with the crop

Regular
inspection and
proper
weeding/ at
least twice
before
flowering

Proper
storing in a
dry place

No	Practice	Explanation
Good practices	1 Applying manure at least 3 weeks before planting	Manure application improves the fertility of the soil and stimulates the biological activity in the soil. This contributed to an open, aerated, soil.
	2 Clean seed selection and appropriate seed rate	Using clean seeds helps to ensure successful germination and a full crop stand. Also, seeding to many seeds should be avoided to avoid competition between the plants for nutrients and water, seeding to few seeds should be avoided to make optimal use of the available land, water and nutrients.
	3 Regular inspection and proper weeding/at least twice before flowering stage	Weeding before the flowering stage is important to ensure the weeds do not compete with the crop. However, during weeding, make sure you do not damage the crop.
	4 Timely harvesting	Timely harvesting means; not harvesting too early, before the crop is fully mature but also not too late when the crop has dried out.
	5 Proper storing in a dry place	Proper storage in a dry and pest free location will minimize the post-harvest losses and contribute to food security.

No	Practice	Explanation
Bad practices	1 Uneven sowing of the seeds	Uneven sowing/planting of the seeds leads to an uneven cropping pattern and crop stand. As a result the crop development will not be uniform and this will decrease the harvest potential.
	2 Insufficient weeding, weeds competing with the crop	If you do not remove the weeds sufficiently, they will compete with the crops and limit the access of the crops to water and nutrients. Also the weeds can be a host for diseases.
	3 Flooding the field with water, after planting	Flooding the field with water, once the plant has started growing can potentially damage the plant. Flooding limits the availability of oxygen in the soil and the flow of water can break the plant.
	4 Harvesting the crop before harvesting time	Harvesting the crop before harvesting time decreases the time available for the plant to develop the full crop and will limit the quality of the harvested seeds.
	5 Storing the seeds in a moist place	Storing the seeds in a moist place will impact the quality and lifespan of the seeds. Besides the development of fungus, it will impact the ability of the seeds to sprout after planting.

Scoring	
Number of good practices correct and in the right order/position	Stars
1	★
2	★★
3	★★★
4	★★★★
5	★★★★★