



## Links to Agriculture **Football and Agriculture**



The game of football evolved from two games that have been played in England since the early 1800s: rugby and soccer. In the late 1800s, American colleges began to play a game they called football which used ideas and rules from both games. Football became popular quickly and is still one of America's best loved sports.

Have you ever thought about how football is related to agriculture? Check out these interesting facts:

The very first footballs were made from inflated pig bladders! It may have been more like playing with a balloon than a ball. Today, footballs are made from leather which comes from a cow's hide. The NFL has specific regulations about how footballs are made.

Prior to 1966, all professional football games were played on natural grass fields. Grass fields must be weed free, evenly cut, watered, and fertilized so that players have bright green, safe playing fields. Over the years, many teams have switched to artificial turf because it requires less maintenance. However, as of 2018, 18 of the 32 teams in the NFL still played on natural grass fields.

Much of the clothing worn by fans, and some parts of the players' uniforms are made from cotton that grows on farms. Clothing made from cotton is breathable and comfortable to wear in hot weather.

As you can see, football is related to agriculture in many ways!



## Show What You Know

**Agriculture** is the science or practice of farming. Farms grow crops and raise animals to provide food, clothing, and other products. Many products found at football games can be traced back to agriculture. Think about the origin of each item listed below and check the box under **Plant** or **Animal**.

Item	Plant	Animal
Football		
Natural field		
Souvenir t-shirt		
Peanuts		
Hot Dog		

### Eat Some Agricultural Products at the Ballgame

Don't forget that many things that are eaten at the football stadium are agricultural products! You have \$10.00 to spend on food. Your task is to purchase as many food items as possible without going over \$10.00. Calculate what you can buy using the menu below. List your choices in the space provided and show your total.

<b>MENU</b>	
<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
Hot dog	\$5.00
Soda	\$3.00
Popcorn	\$4.00
Peanuts	\$3.00
Nachos	\$6.00

I am going to purchase the following items:	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Price</b>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<b>Total</b>	_____



# Get to Know Lamar Jackson

**Position played:** Quarterback

**Born:** January 7, 1997

**Throws:** Right-handed

**College Team:** University of Louisville

**Years with Baltimore Ravens:** 2018 - present

**Career Yards Passed:** 4,328

**Career Touchdowns:** 42



1. Lamar was awarded the “NFL Most Valuable Player” award. He is the 2<sup>nd</sup> player **ever** to be selected for this award unanimously.
2. In 2018, he became the youngest quarterback to start a playoff game.

1. How old is Lamar Jackson? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What college did he graduate from? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What position does he play? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many career touchdowns has he thrown? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many years has he played with the Ravens? \_\_\_\_\_
6. If Lamar completed 265 passes in 2019 and 99 passes in 2018, how many more passes did he complete in 2019? Show your work. \_\_\_\_\_

## Football Trivia

- The first huddle was used in the 1890s by a deaf quarterback named Paul Hubbard.
- The first televised professional football game was played in 1939.
- The math term for the shape of a football is “prolate spheroid.”
- College footballs and professional footballs are the same size, but college footballs have white stripes on the ends.
- The longest field goal made in pro football history was 64 yards.



## Joke Time!

Why did the football coach go to the bank?



**Joke Answer:**

To get his  
quarter back.

## Did You Know...?

- Football stadiums sell millions of hot dogs, peanuts, and sodas during one season. All of these snacks come from agriculture.
- Peanuts are not really nuts at all – they’re actually part of the legume family. That means they’re more related to peas than cashews and pecans.



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