

# JUNIOR CLUB

Hi, I'm Alexander,  
9 years old, and I'm  
interested in the  
environment.

Hello, I'm Emma,  
I am 12 years old and have  
always been friends with  
Alexander and Martin.

Hello,  
my name  
is Martin  
and I'm  
5 years old.



Hi kids! Welcome to the new John Deere Junior Club. There are some changes with this edition. You'll meet three new friends: Emma, Alexander and Martin. They'll take you along on a journey all about potatoes and we'll visit a pumpkin patch together. Let's go.



JOHN DEERE

NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE

# Cut out, collect, and play

Hey Kids!

Emma, Alexander and Martin want to meet you. Do you want to make something cool together? Great! Let's start! Find some scissors and cut out our heroes along the lines. Then fold them along the line. Finished? Well done! Now you can play together. How does that work? Let your imagination run wild.

But...the more the merrier. So you can look forward to new friends in the next edition of the Junior Club News. Because there can't be a Junior Club farm without them. And when you have collected, cut out and folded the entire Junior Club gang you'll have a big, three-dimensional farm. And then the fun can really begin! Have fun!



*Do you like potatoes? Who doesn't? After all, potatoes are made into fries and chips – a treat for just about everyone. But potatoes can also be much more. And which potato dishes are the tastiest?*

# A journey all about the potato.

And have you ever wondered how potatoes get onto your plate? From the supermarket? That answer is only half-correct, because the potatoes have a pretty long and often not so easy way to travel. Do you want proof? Then hop on our tractor and hold on! We're going on the road!



## 1 The potato soil

The soil for growing potatoes is prepared as early as in fall. A manure spreader is used to spread manure on the field. This is animal manure from cows and pigs mixed with straw. These are then plowed deep into the soil and left until spring. Thanks to this natural fertilizer, the farmland is much better for planting and the potatoes grow and taste better. The field is also fertilized with artificial fertilizers, which contain many important minerals. Only then is the soil well prepared and you can start planting in the spring. And it looks like this...





## 2 From a seedling to a potato

In our climate, the potatoes are planted in the spring, around the middle of April. Planting means letting the potato tubers germinate in the winter and then putting what we call seed potatoes in the ground. However, the farm land must be prepared properly before planting...

## 3 A hoe with wheels

In the past, when there was no agricultural machinery, potatoes were planted by hand, using only a hoe. Every seedling potato was buried by the farmer in a little hole. Before that, the farmer had to use a scraper plow to make „furrows“ in the ground. Today, this is done by machines. A special machine is attached to the tractor to make these furrows. Another machine – the planting machine – automatically inserts each single potato tuber into the furrows. Keeping the correct depth and distance is particularly important. In the end, everything is filled with soil. Done.



*Fried potatoes*





# 4

## Caring for the seedling

A good farmer knows that you have to take care of crops before the soil can produce a good harvest. That is why farmers make sure that seedlings don't get sick and are not infested with pests. The potato's biggest enemy is the potato beetle, which eats the leaves off the planted potatoes. To get rid of the potato beetles, farmers spray special liquids which protect against the pests. Another way to care for them is to cover the seedlings with the soil. A machine does this too. If it doesn't rain enough, then watering is needed. Farmers use irrigation for this. These complex devices turn water into mist, which falls right onto the field like rain. So the potatoes grow better, even if it doesn't rain.



*Potatoes come from Peru, where they have been planted for 8000 years. They were introduced to Europe in the 16th century by Spanish sailors who had conquered South America at that time.*

*At first, potatoes were thought to be decorative flowers. They were planted in palace gardens and then picked and placed in flower vases. They became fashionable thanks to the French queen Marie Antoinette herself, who decorated the salons with potato flowers.*

*The potato's closest relatives are the pepper, the tomato and the aubergine.*

*The average person eats up to 33 kilograms of potatoes each year.*

*The potato is the fourth most popular farmable crop in the world, just behind wheat, rice and corn.*

*Peruvian scientists have proven that potatoes can be grown in space.*



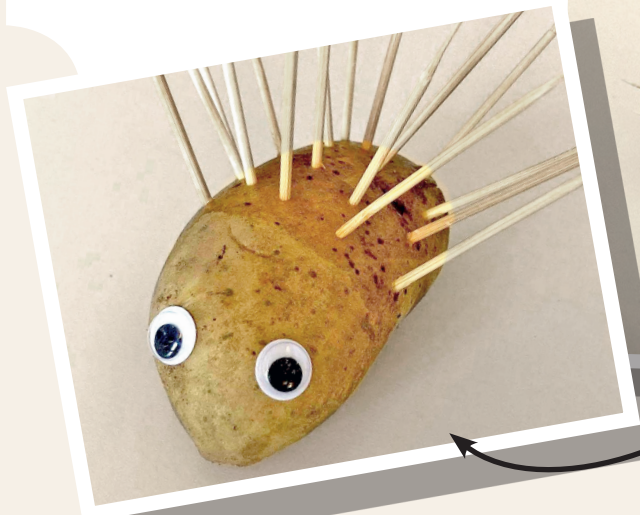
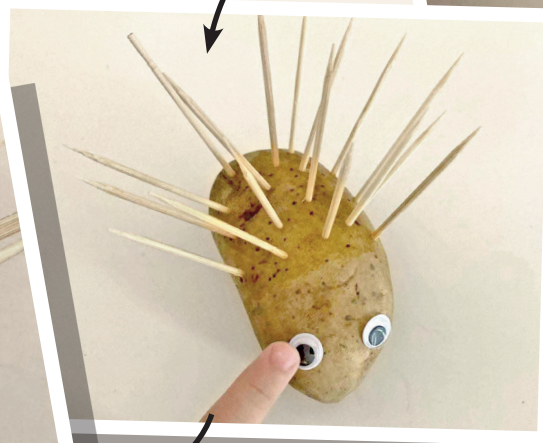
## Potato pancakes

# 5

### The potato harvest

Potatoes ripen, depending on which variety they are, for three to four months. Young potatoes can be harvested in early summer, at the beginning of potato flowering. However, harvesting later varieties of potatoes usually happens in September. In the past, potatoes were uprooted by hand, using hoes and harvesters. Today potato harvester machines do the work. The harvested potatoes are stored in boxes, which can be kept in a cool cellar for half a year or more.

## DIY Let's make a potato hedgehog!



### Impressum

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**JOHN DEERE**

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# The laughing pumpkin



Do you like jokes? Would you like to play a little prank on a friend? Yes? Then we've got a great idea that you might like! The main ingredient is a pumpkin – the star of the show in autumn.

*Find an adult to help you hollow out a pumpkin and bake the insides in your oven, for about 15 minutes.*

*Once everything has cooled down, put it all in a bowl and mix in a few spoonfuls of potato flour. Knead everything carefully together until you have an orangey dough. With this, you can now make different things, like pumpkin carrots that look almost like real carrots.*

*Set them on a tray. And then? Call over a friend or someone from your family. And have fun!*

## John Deere Junior Club goes digital

We're so happy to have you as a member of our John Deere Junior Club! The club is now managed digitally, so you'll have to register again. If you want to stay a member of our club, get the Junior Club News and your birthday card, then register using the QR code or link. Another new feature is that you can manage your data yourself online and easily change address if you move.  
<https://www.deere.co.uk/en/our-company/junior-club/>

