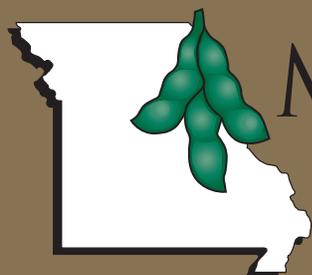


# Staying Sustainable

with Simon and Soymantha



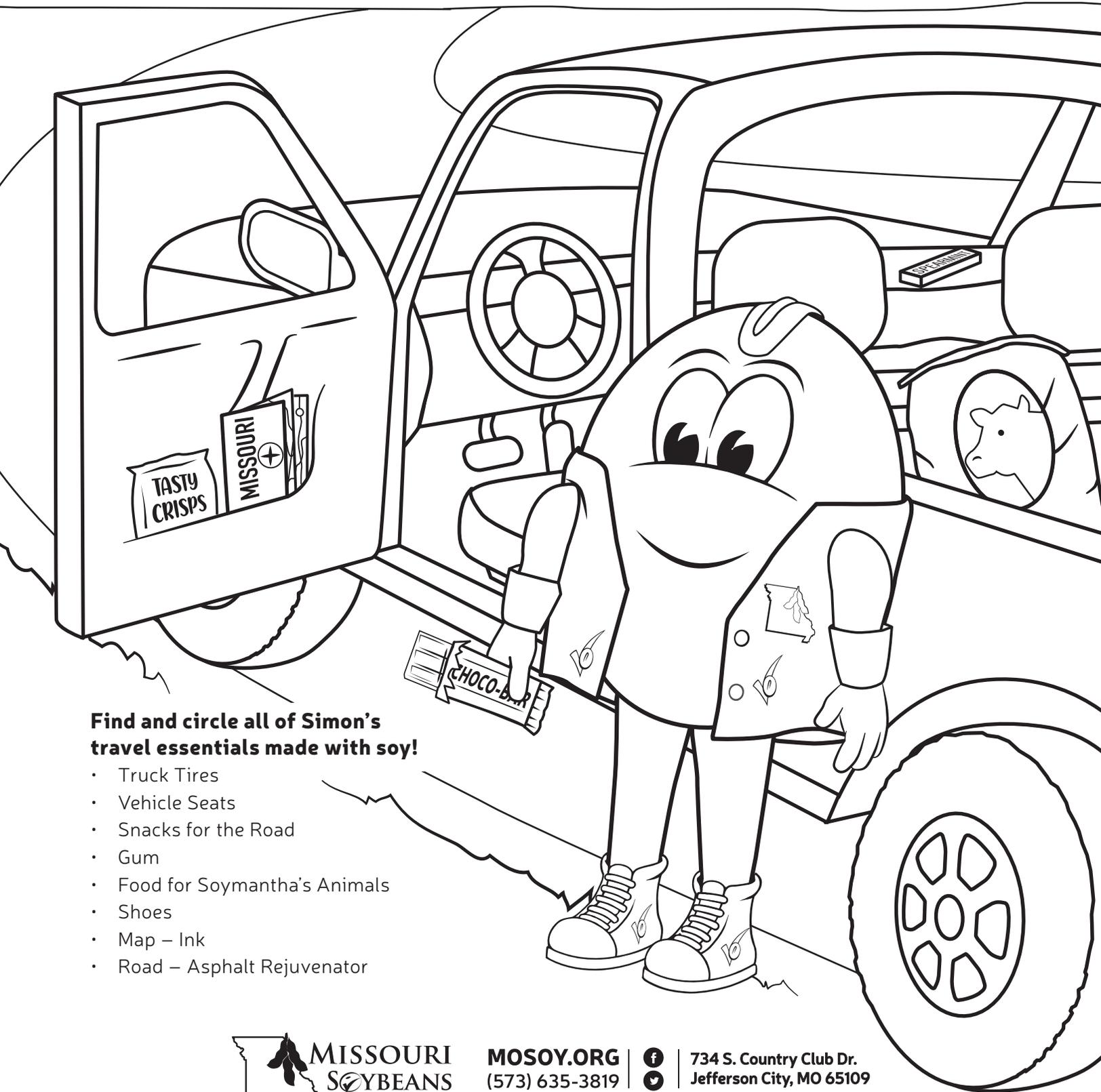
MISSOURI  
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# Soybeans, everywhere you look!

Simon is getting ready to go to his friend Soymantha's farm to learn about **sustainability**. Sustainability is the idea that humans should interact with our world in a way that leaves enough resources for future generations. A good way to start is by using products made with plants, like soybeans.



## Find and circle all of Simon's travel essentials made with soy!

- Truck Tires
- Vehicle Seats
- Snacks for the Road
- Gum
- Food for Soymantha's Animals
- Shoes
- Map – Ink
- Road – Asphalt Rejuvenator



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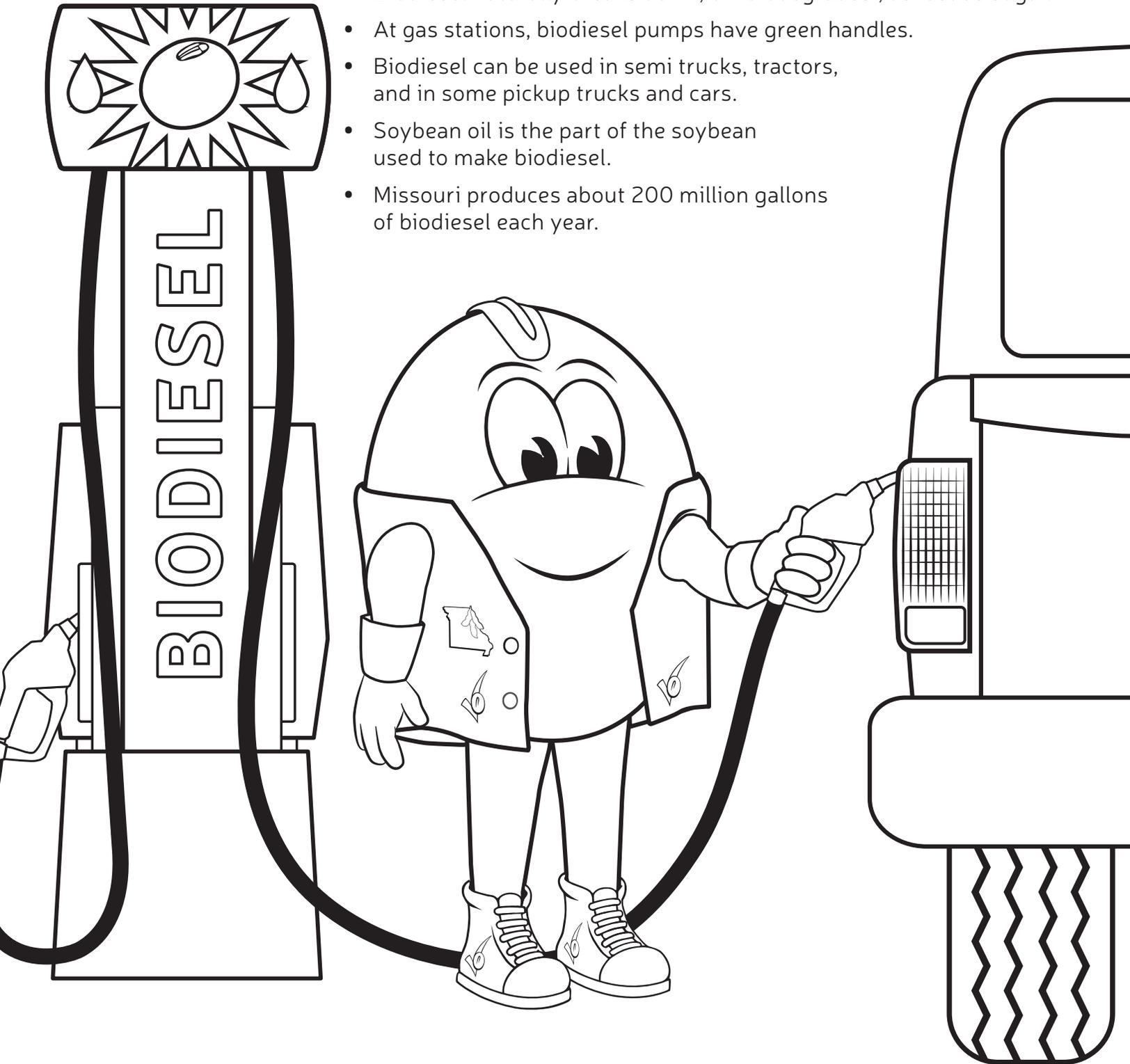
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# Fuel from Soybeans

Before heading out, Simon fills up his truck with biodiesel.

## Did You Know...

- Biodiesel is a renewable fuel, which means we can make more of it from things like soybeans - and that helps the environment.
- Biodiesel naturally breaks down, or “biodegrades”, as fast as sugar.
- At gas stations, biodiesel pumps have green handles.
- Biodiesel can be used in semi trucks, tractors, and in some pickup trucks and cars.
- Soybean oil is the part of the soybean used to make biodiesel.
- Missouri produces about 200 million gallons of biodiesel each year.

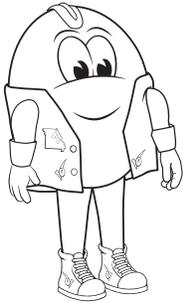


# Protecting Soil with Cover Crops

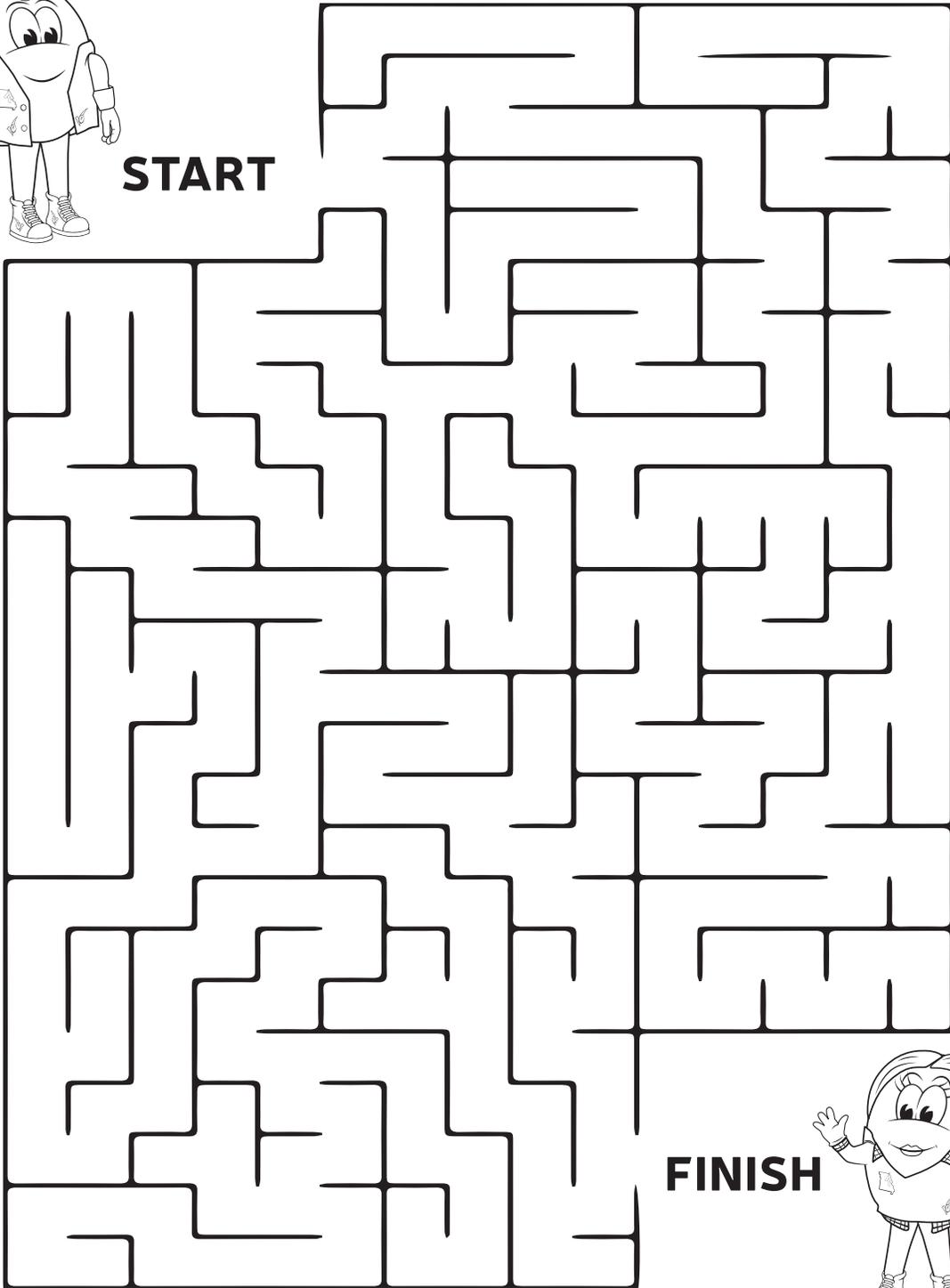
When Simon arrives at Soymantha's farm, he spots a field of cover crops.

**Cover crops** are planted to protect the soil and help manage pests and diseases. They are not meant to be harvested, like corn or soybeans.

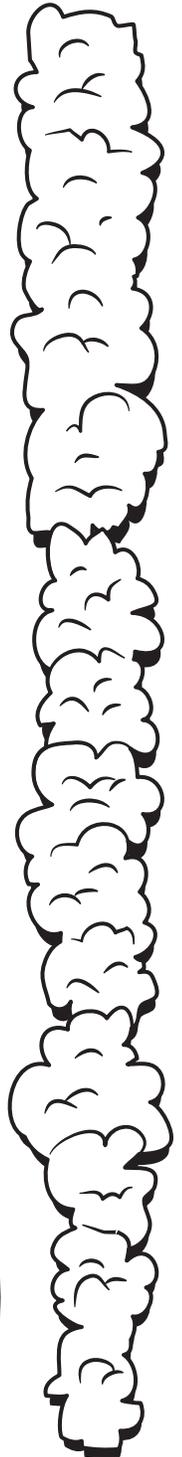
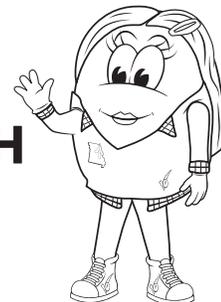
**Make your way through the cover crop maze to find Soymantha!**



**START**



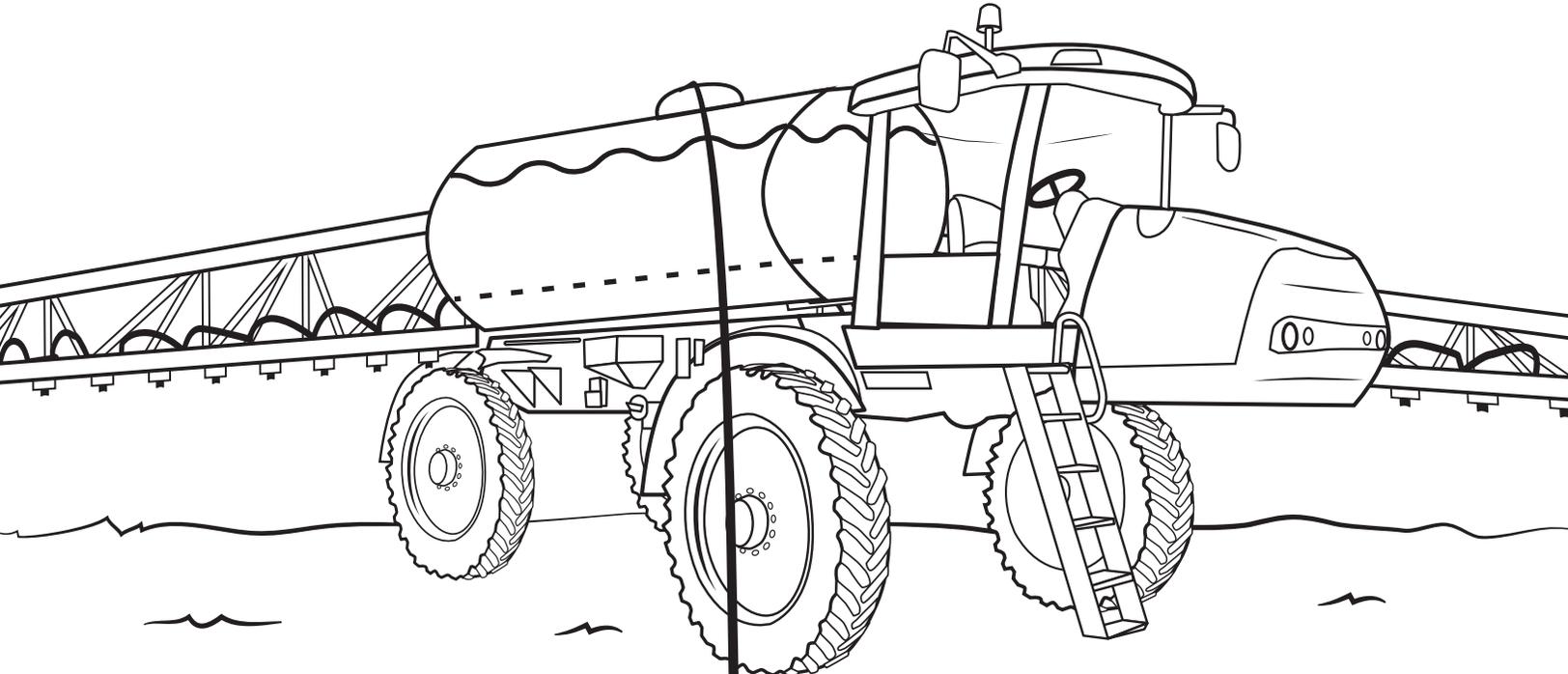
**FINISH**



# Responsible use of Chemicals

On the other side of the field, Simon finds Soymantha getting ready to apply fertilizer to her soybean crop. Together, they mix a small amount of fertilizer into a large tank of water to reach the perfect mixture. Fertilizer is a source of nutrients for plants, which helps them stay healthy and grow strong.

**Color the tank to show how much fertilizer and water is needed.**



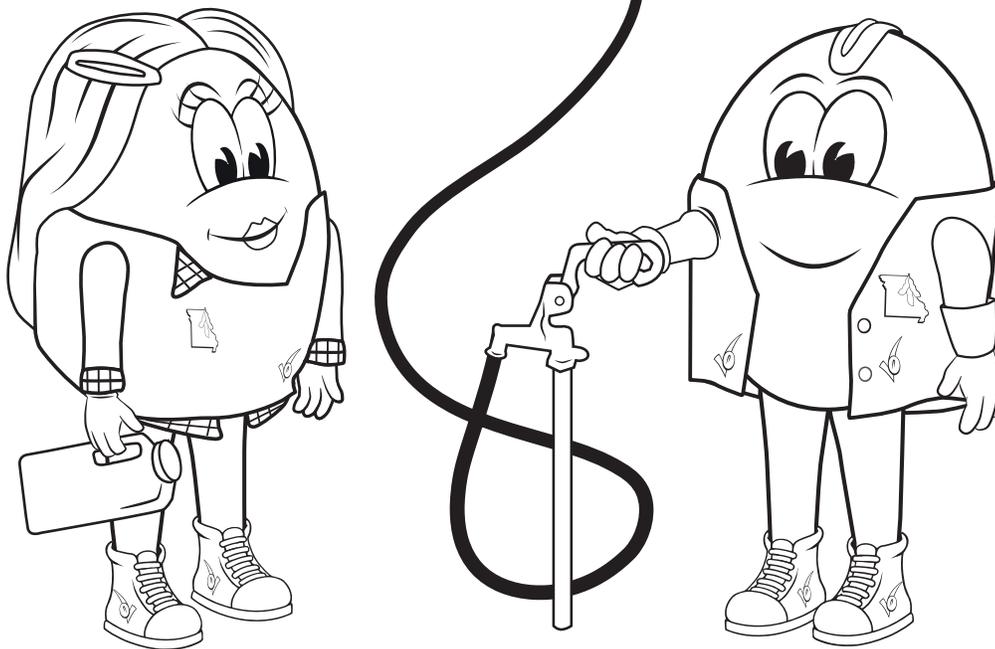
Many farmers follow the 4Rs of Nutrient Management to help them nourish their crops in a sustainable and responsible way.

**Right Source:** Farmers should match the fertilizer type to the crop's needs.

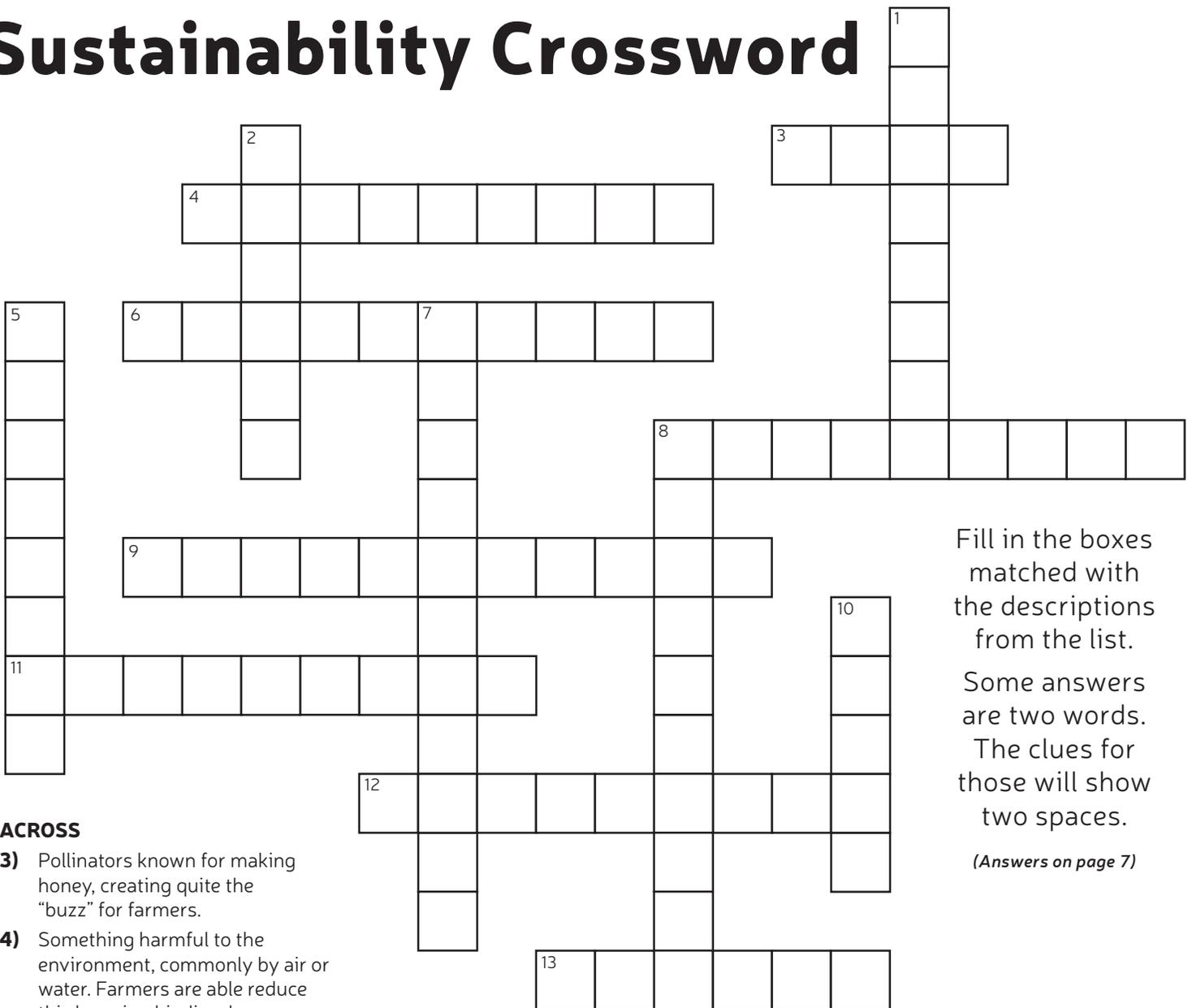
**Right Time:** It's important to supply nutrients when crops need them.

**Right Rate:** Farmers should also match the fertilizer amount to the crop's needs.

**Right Place:** Nutrients should be applied where crops can use them.



# Sustainability Crossword



Fill in the boxes  
matched with  
the descriptions  
from the list.

Some answers  
are two words.  
The clues for  
those will show  
two spaces.

*(Answers on page 7)*

## ACROSS

- 3) Pollinators known for making honey, creating quite the “buzz” for farmers.
- 4) Something harmful to the environment, commonly by air or water. Farmers are able reduce this by using biodiesel, conservation practices, and abiding by the 4Rs.
- 6) Farmers use no-till and cover crops to improve \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ on their farm.
- 8) Farmers use a \_\_\_\_ to keep nutrients in the soil before and after their cash crop.
- 9) These important pollinators come in all kinds of colors and give farmers clues about the biodiversity on their farm.
- 11) Farmers are able to reduce their carbon \_\_\_\_ by a number of ways, including making less passes in the field.
- 12) A type of resource that is created from another resource, or one that can be continually replenished without using all of it.
- 13) Farmers are improving air quality and soil health by taking this element from the air and putting it back into their soil.

## DOWN

- 1) Farmers use biodiesel because the emissions provide more \_\_\_\_ than traditional diesel.
- 2) This practice is used by farmers for growing crops without disturbing the soil through tillage. It’s a great way to reduce soil erosion and create organic matter.
- 5) By increasing biodiversity habitats around their fields, farmers are able to create more opportunity for animals and other \_\_\_\_.
- 7) Sustainable farming creates a healthy \_\_\_\_ for people, animals, and plants to live and enjoy in the future.
- 8) By using good conservation practices and reducing soil erosion, farmers make sure rivers and streams have \_\_\_\_.
- 10) This color is used to describe all types of sustainable practices, on and off the farm.



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# Stewards of the Land

After saying goodbye to Soymantha, Simon was thinking about all that he had learned as he drove away.

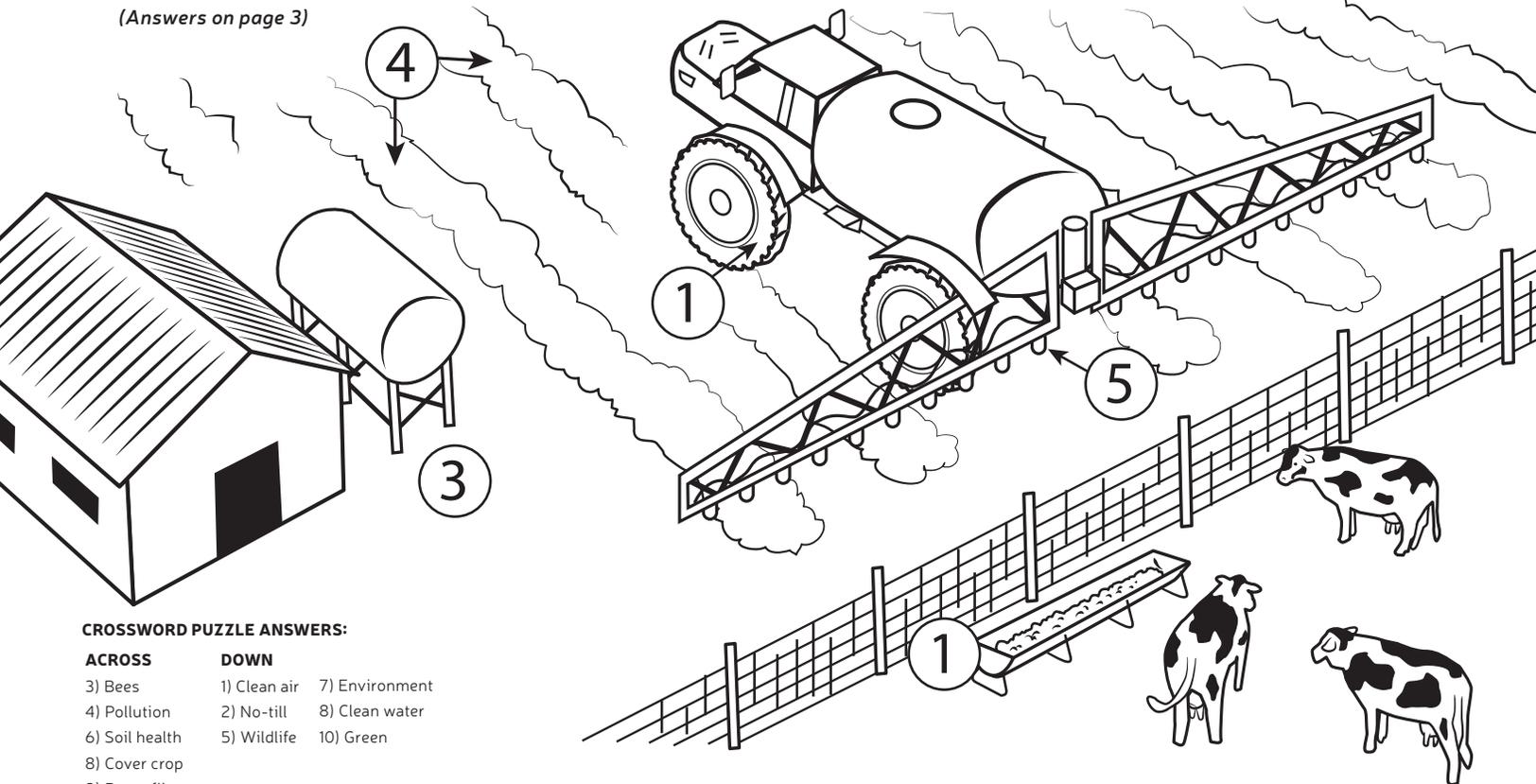
A steward is someone who looks after and protects. Farmers use sustainable practices to help protect our resources, so they are usable for future generations.

## Match the number from the picture with the descriptions to test your new sustainability knowledge!

- \_\_\_ Biodiesel: Fuel made from soybeans and other renewable sources.
- \_\_\_ Cover Crops: The help preserve the soil and its nutrients.
- \_\_\_ Responsible Chemical Use: Machines and computers that help farmers use the right amount of chemicals.
- \_\_\_ Soy Products: Animal feed, people's food products, tires, and so much more!
- \_\_\_ Plants for pollinators: Keeping areas for bees, butterflies, and nature.

"Farmers do a lot more than grow food and raise animals. They are stewards of our land."

(Answers on page 3)



### CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS:

- | ACROSS         | DOWN         |                |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 3) Bees        | 1) Clean air | 7) Environment |
| 4) Pollution   | 2) No-till   | 8) Clean water |
| 6) Soil health | 5) Wildlife  | 10) Green      |
| 8) Cover crop  |              |                |
| 9) Butterflies |              |                |
| 11) Footprint  |              |                |
| 12) Renewable  |              |                |
| 13) Carbon     |              |                |



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Thanks for joining us to learn about sustainability and soybean farming!

To find out more, visit the Center for Soy Innovation in Jefferson City, MO!



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