



Level 2

An A-maize-ing Story

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I'm Bongie. I'm planting corn seeds for the new season.
I must hurry. My parents' seeds have already sprouted.



The bird flocks keep flying down to eat the seeds. The cats and I have to chase them away.

“Fly away, you bad birds!” we shout.



A few days later, a single sprout shows up.

I name it Green Top. I read books to Green Top so he will grow up quickly.



When Green Top is thirsty, I water him.



The cats and I play hide-and-seek with Green Top.



I bring a new kind of food for Green Top. It is called fertilizer.



Green Top grows every day.



One day, I see the bees
talking to the other
plants.
They say that corn is
on its way!

A painting of a young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a red dress with white trim, standing in a field of tall, golden-brown stalks. She is looking down at a single stalk she is holding. The field is filled with many similar stalks, some of which have white birds perched on them. The sky is a mix of blue and white, suggesting a bright, sunny day. The overall style is soft and painterly.

I quickly run to Green Top.
My parents' plants are happy.
Why is Green Top so sad?

I ask his friends.
"Does anyone know why
Green Top is sad?"
Snail doesn't.





Caterpillar doesn't.

Only Frog answers.
He says *ribbit ribbit*
and then jumps into the water.
What does that mean?





Oh! I get it!
There's too much
water around Green
Top. I'll dig a trench,
for the water to flow
away.



Sometimes finding
Green Top is hard. As
he grows, he looks just
like the others.

I'll tie a red ribbon
around my corn plant.





Now I can recognize Green Top easily!



Two more weeks pass.
Green Top grows taller.



At last it's harvesting season.
Green Top gives me a gift.
It's corn!



Our maize harvest makes quite a mountain.
I climb up and place Green Top's gift right on top.



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An A-maize-ing Story

(English)

While Bongie's family is planting maize in the field, she plants a seed of her own. Bongie takes care of the seed everyday - watering it, making sure it has sunlight, protecting from birds and weeds, and even reading to it. Do you think the seed will grow for Bongie?

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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