

# Kids Page

## Cranberry Harvest

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### Thanksgiving fruit

It's cranberry time! This time of year, you can find these bright little berries everywhere — especially on the Thanksgiving dinner table.

Cranberries are a holiday tradition in the United States. Maybe it's because they go so well with turkey and dressing. Or perhaps it's because cranberries are one of the few fruits that have always grown in this part of the world. American Indians ate cranberries, blueberries and wild grapes long before European settlers arrived. The Indians combined cranberries with maple sugar or honey to create sweet breads. They also used cranberries in teas and medicines.

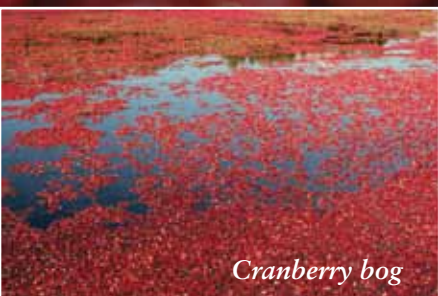
Lots of cranberries are still grown in the United States, mostly in Massachusetts, Maine, New Jersey, Wisconsin and Oregon. Cranberries don't grow on trees. Instead, they grow on vines. When it's time to pick cranberries, most farmers flood their fields to create bogs.

The berries have tiny air pockets trapped inside that make them float. When the berries float to the top, they are easier to pick. Farmers use something called a water beater to shake the berries from their vines. They then scoop up the berries and load them onto trucks to be delivered to stores near you — just in time for Thanksgiving!

Cranberries are just one of the many blessings God gives us. It might be fun to make a list of things for which you can be thankful. Think about everything from your family to your favorite foods. Take time this week to pray and thank God for all the good things He provides.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (1 Chronicles 16:34, NIV).

Cranberry bog



### JUST FOR laughs

**Why did the unwashed cranberry cross the road twice?**  
It was a dirty double-crosser.

**How do you make a cranberry shake?**  
Send it outside without a coat.



### Try this!

The air pockets inside cranberries make them do some fun things. Besides floating, cranberries also bounce. With an adult's permission, try bouncing some fresh cranberries on the sidewalk. Try floating some in a bowl of water, too. Can you see why farmers use water to harvest their berries?



### Did you know?

It takes about 4,400 cranberries to make just one gallon of cranberry juice.

Cranberries may have gotten their name from birds that like to eat them.

Early American settlers called the fruit crane berries, probably because it was a favorite treat of cranes. The name was later shortened to cranberries.

### Enter to win!

Be the star of your own show with a set of juggling balls. Enter online by Dec. 8 at [pe.ag.org](http://pe.ag.org) or mail an entry postmarked on or before that date to Juggling Balls Giveaway, Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Include a daytime phone number. You must have a parent's permission to enter.

