Ben couldn’t wait to go to Uncle Darrell’s farm. Uncle Darrell had the best corn, apples, and pumpkins ever. And since Ben was going to be spending the weekend, he’d get to help Uncle Darrell pick them all.

Ben said a quick goodbye to his parents and ran from the car. He knew Uncle Darrell would be in the field tending to the crops. But when Ben got there, he saw Uncle Darrell wasn’t the only one in the field. There were big black crows everywhere.

“What’s going on?” Ben asked.

Uncle Darrell shooed the crows away and turned to Ben. “Hey, Benny. I’m just getting rid of these crows. They’re trying to steal my crops.”

“Where’s the scarecrow?” Ben asked. Uncle Darrell usually had a giant scarecrow to keep the birds away.

“It was ruined in the last storm, and now every time I leave the field, the crows start attacking my crops. I don’t have time to make a new scarecrow right now.”

Ben looked around the field. The crows were already coming back. “I’ll make a scarecrow for you.”

“You will? But I thought you wanted to pick pumpkins and go for a hayride.”

“I do, but this is more important.” Ben spotted a medium-sized pumpkin, perfect and round, about five feet away. “Besides, I need to
pick a pumpkin to make the scarecrow."

“You do?” Uncle Darrell narrowed his eyes.

“Yup. And I need some overalls and a flannel shirt.”

“There are plenty of those in the house. Help yourself.”

Ben ran into the house and found an old pair of overalls with holes in the knees. He grabbed a flannel shirt that looked two sizes too small for Uncle Darrell. Then he raced back outside and picked the pumpkin he’d eyed earlier.

Uncle Darrell was putting hay bales into the back of his truck.

“Any extra hay I can use?” Ben asked.

“Sure. Anything else you need?”

“Whoa, that is one scary scarecrow,” Uncle Darrell said. “Let’s see if the crows think it’s scary.”

Ben and Uncle Darrell shooed the crows away and placed the scarecrow in the middle of the field. Then they backed away and waited to see if the crows came back. None did.

“It works!” Ben cheered.

“Yes, Ben. It’s the scariest scarecrow ever.”
The Scariest Scarecrow
By Kelly Hashway

1. Name three crops that were grown on Uncle Darrell’s farm.
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

2. Why didn’t Uncle Darrell have a scarecrow in his field?
   ________________________________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________________________

3. When Ben went inside to choose clothes for the scarecrow, how did he decide which ones to use?
   a. He chose the scariest clothes he could find.
   b. He looked for the biggest clothes he could find.
   c. He chose clothes with bright colors so the birds could see his scarecrow.
   d. He chose clothes that Uncle Darrell probably wouldn’t want any more.

4. Reread the sentence below from the story and choose the best definition for the underlined word.
   Uncle Darrell helped Ben find a stake and together they fastened the pumpkin on the top of it.
   The underlined word means...
   a. type of meat
   b. type of knife for carving pumpkins
   c. large stick that can be pushed into the ground
   d. top of a scarecrow

5. What is the setting of this story?
   a. at Uncle Ben’s farm, in the summer
   b. at Uncle Ben’s farm, in the fall
   c. at Ben’s uncle’s farm, in the spring
   d. at Ben’s uncle’s farm, in the fall
The Scariest Scarecrow

By Kelly Hashway

Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. __u__i__
   clue: fast

2. __m__p__n__s
   clue: large, orange, round fruits that grow on a vine

3. __y__r__d__
   clue: a ride in a trailer filled with hay

4. __l__n__e__
   clue: soft woven cloth, made of wool or other material

5. __t__t__h__e__d
   clue: fastened

6. __c__d
   clue: hurried
In the story, “The Scariest Scarecrow” you read about a boy who visits his uncle’s farm. He helps building a scarecrow to keep the crows away from the crops.

Have you ever been to a farm? If you have, describe the
1. Name three crops that were grown on Uncle Darrell’s farm.
   ______________________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________________

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   ___________________________________________________________________________________
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The Scariest Scarecrow

clue: fastened

6.  ______________________
   clue: hurried

6.  ________raced__________