

GO ORGANIC

by Wendy Fachon

ACT 1: INSECTS

Narrator: *One morning some insects came to visit the farmer's children.*

Bee: I wish the farmer would stop spraying herbicides to get rid of the weeds. I need dandelion, goldenrod, and clover nectar to feed our colony and keep us alive.

Butterfly: I wish the farmer would stop spraying the milkweed. I need milkweed to survive.

Little Girl: I'm sorry. I did not know the spraying was creating such problems for you.

Worms: I wish the farmer would stop spraying pesticides. Otherwise I will die and will not be able to condition the soil.

Ladybug: Yes, if he stops the spraying, I can take care of those pests. I love to eat aphids, mites, and potato beetles. I won't eat worms, though. Yech!

Praying Mantis: I can help, too. I love to eat potato beetles, asparagus beetles, bean beetles and squash bugs.

Little Boy: I didn't know you could help protect our crops.

Little Girl: Maybe we should ask our father to stop spraying.

ACT 2: BIRDS

Narrator: *In the afternoon birds came to visit the children.*

Crow: I wish the farmer would stop spraying herbicides all over the tomatoes. It makes me sick when I eat them.

Eagle: I wish he would stop spraying the air. It makes me sick when I fly by and breathe it in.

Cardinal: I wish the farmer would stop spraying the trees. He kills the beetles and moths I love to eat. Even worse, the spray is making my babies sick.

Blue Jay: I also wish the farmer would stop spraying the trees. I love to eat acorns but do not want to get sick from eating them.

Turkey: I wish he would stop using pesticides on the corn fields, because this kills the insects, spiders, slugs, and grasshoppers I would much rather eat than the toxic corn he wants to feed me. Besides, corn does not provide the protein I need in my diet.

Little Girl: Gosh, I wish my father would stop spraying chemicals on his crops, because *I* do not want to eat food treated with toxic chemicals. Could that be why I have such terrible food allergies?

Wise Old Owl: Weed killers block the uptake of important minerals in the soil that *all* plants need to grow into healthy food. These toxic sprays are poisonous to anything that eats the plant – bees, birds, mice, and humans.

Little Boy: Really? I didn't know that.

Little Girl: We should explain to our father and ask him to stop spraying.

ACT 3: OTHER ANIMALS

Narrator: *In the evening, more animals came to visit the farmer's children.*

Beaver: I wish the farmer would stop spraying the chemicals that the rain washes into the river. It is killing the fish and all the water bugs that the fish like to eat.

Possum: The fields are becoming less fertile and are causing erosion which muddies up the rivers...

Squirrel: ... which creates sludge that washes out into the oceans.

Fox: If your father was as clever as I am, he would learn to how to grow food organically, without chemicals.

Little Girl: I have an idea. Let's talk to our mother and tell her what we learned about our food.

Little Boy: That's a great idea. Maybe she can help us explain the problem to our father.

Little Girl: Yes, let's go right now! Together we will come up with some solutions that are healthier for the environment and for all of us.

The children run off stage.