

The Curious Cook: Strawberries

Sam: Hi, everyone! Sam here with another episode of The Curious Cook! I love this time of year. Do you know why? Berries! I was having dinner with my friend Lily, and her mom served a berry sauce she made from wild strawberries. Lily told me her Kokum calls them heart berries. It was the most delicious thing...That got me thinking. I've always liked picking strawberries with my grandparents, and there could be a whole farm where they grow strawberries! It turns out, there is! I wanted to visit one, so Dad found one called youuuu pick. It's called that because YOU get to pick them!! I can't wait to go!

Farmer Leona: You must be Sam.

Sam: Yep, that's me! Whoa, that's a lot of people out there. Are they looking for treasure?

Farmer Leona: No, that's where the strawberries grow. Those people are all picking strawberries!

Sam: Do strawberries grow from... STRAW?

Farmer Leona: I wish it was that easy! We use the straw as a blanket for the plants, to protect them over winter. In the spring we clear the straw away and pick the strawberries.

Sam: With a machine?

Farmer Leona: No. Strawberries are delicate, so we take care of them mostly by hand.

Sam: Whoa. That must take a long time.

Farmer Leona: Two years. In the first year, the plant grows so it's big and healthy and can grow lots of strawberries in the second year.

Sam: That sounds pretty simple.

Farmer Leona: Well, we also have to pull out all of the weeds so the plants have room to grow. It's a lot of work to grow one strawberry! But it's worth it!

Sam: This place is the best! Can I pick some strawberries to take home?

Farmer Leona: Sure! You know, you can get strawberries at the store frozen, dried, or in jams. They're all good. But my favourite? Fresh!

Sam: Thanks for watching, see you next time on The Curious Cook!