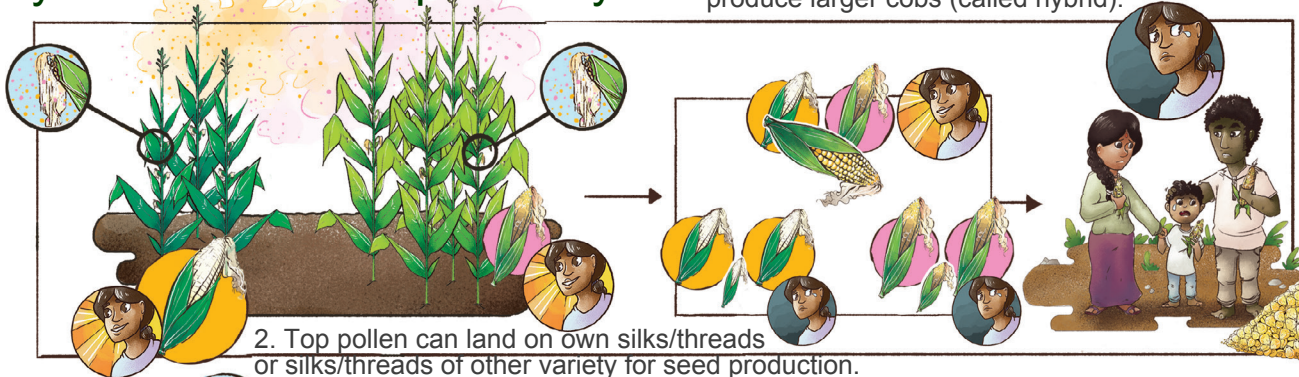


# Lesson: Instead of purchasing expensive hybrid maize seed, it is possible to produce one's own higher producing hybrid seed less expensively.

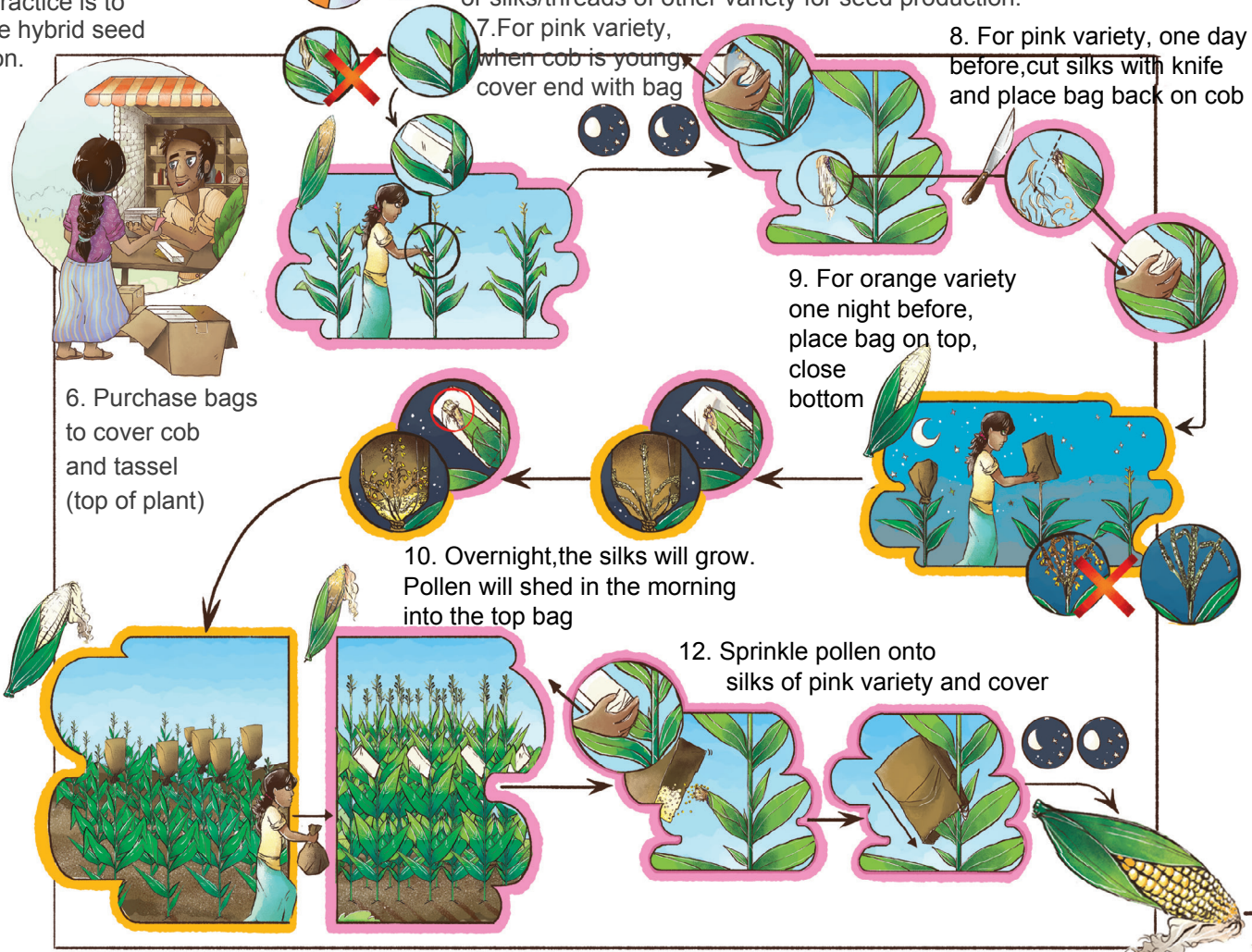
1. Traditional practice: two or more maize varieties (orange, pink) grow



3. Pollen from one variety that randomly lands on silks of the second variety may produce larger cobs (called hybrid).

4. However, most cobs are small from such random, open pollination.

5. New practice is to deliberate hybrid seed production.



7. For pink variety, when cob is young, cover end with bag

8. For pink variety, one day before, cut silks with knife and place bag back on cob

9. For orange variety one night before, place bag on top, close bottom

10. Overnight, the silks will grow. Pollen will shed in the morning into the top bag

12. Sprinkle pollen onto silks of pink variety and cover

11. Collect bag of pollen in the mid-morning from orange variety.

13. All seeds are a hybrid of the two varieties. They may look the same colour, shape and size if the parents were pure (inbred) or different if the parents were not pure

14. Potential for higher yield