

Reading Guide: Understanding Conservation Agriculture

BEFORE READING

1. **Prediction:** Based on the title "*Soil and Water: Why We Need Conservation Agriculture*", what do you think this article will discuss?

DURING READING

As you read, take notes on the following key topics:

2. **Threats to Soil and Water:**

- What are the main challenges facing soil and water in agriculture?
- List at least two examples mentioned in the article.

3. **Conservation Agriculture Practices**

- What are some farming methods that help protect soil and water?
- How do these methods benefit both the environment and farmers?

4. **The Role of Farmers and Policymakers**

- How can farmers help conserve soil and water?
- What role do governments or organizations play in promoting conservation?

AFTER READING

5. **Earth Day Connection**

- How does conservation agriculture align with the goals of Earth Day?
- Why is it important to consider long-term environmental impact in farming?