## The Story of a Banana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image number</th>
<th>Image info</th>
<th>Photo credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>This is a banana farm. You can see the baby banana plants being watered at the front of the image, and the ones in the background are fully grown. Once the plant is fully grown, it flowers and then the bananas appear. It takes about a year for banana plants to grow, flower and produce bananas. Each banana plant only produces one big ‘bunch’ of bananas and it then dies. However, whilst it’s growing, the next banana plant is already growing next to it. Many banana farmers call this the ‘daughter’ of the banana plant.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Once the bananas start growing, the farmer puts a blue bag over the bananas to protect them from pests. Fairtrade farmers have to recycle their blue bags and the farmers say that local rivers are much cleaner since they started doing this.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>When they are ready, the bananas are cut down and carried to the washing and packing room. Bananas are harvested when they are still green. The farmers have to be very strong to carry the heavy bunches, each of which might have 50 bananas on it!</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>The bananas are cut into smaller bunches and carefully washed to make sure they are completely clean.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>A FAIRTRADE mark sticker is added to each bunch of bananas.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>The bananas are packed carefully into boxes to make sure that they don’t bruise or get damaged during their long journey to the UK.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>The boxes of bananas are lifted one by one into a lorry. The lorry visits lots of different farms once a week to collect boxes of bananas from each farmer.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Full of bananas, the lorry is driven through the villages towards the port.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>At the port, the boxes of bananas are inspected before being loaded into shipping containers. The containers are refrigerated to make sure that the bananas don’t ripen before they reach the UK.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>The containers of bananas are loaded onto a ship that travels thousands of miles across the ocean to the UK.</td>
<td>Eduardo Martino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>When they arrive in the UK, the bananas go to a special ripening room where they gradually turn yellow. Once the bananas are ripe, they are taken to the supermarket by lorry.</td>
<td>Fairtrade Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Finally the bananas are put on sale in the supermarket.</td>
<td>@Kate Fishpool</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Go Bananas: The story of a banana - photo pack

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