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Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Summer Agricultural Institute

June 22-23


8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Carlinville

15 professional development hours

Registration by **May 24**

Space is limited.

More information on this institute for K-12 educators is inside this newsletter. 

For questions about this professional development opportunity, please contact Connie at 217-854-9604 or e-mail cniemann@illinois.edu.

Summer 2021 Virtual Teacher Trainings Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom

Join Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom on Tuesday mornings this summer to learn more about how to incorporate agriculture-themed lessons and activities into your classroom next school year.

Tuesdays 9-10 a.m. Virtual & Free
June 8 & 15 Natural Resources
June 22 & 29 Livestock
July 6 & 13 Row Crops
July 20 & 27 Specialty Crops

Sign up for as many sessions as you'd like, and they will mail you a session-in-a-box for each theme so you can try out the activities during the training sessions.

Please visit <http://iaitc.co/summer21> to sign up.

Teachers who complete the training and submit a reflection form will receive a Certificate of completion from IAITC which may be presented to school administration for professional development hours.



Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities continued

National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference: Fields of Dreams 6/28-7/1

This annual conference provides dynamic professional development to teachers and education professionals who use agriculture as a lens for authentic learning experiences. This will be a hybrid conference. There is an in-person option for attendees able to travel to Des Moines, IA, and a virtual option with a selection of sessions for attendees to live stream over the course of the three-day conference.

Conference highlights

- Eight breakout sessions and four mini-workshops to gather a wealth of new ideas
- Nine traveling workshops to experience agriculture first-hand
- Keynote speakers Anton Treuer, Professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University and author of many books; and Nicole Jolly, host and co-writer of the “How Does it Grow?” video series
- Find out more at <https://www.agclassroom.org/conference/>

Credit & Registration

- ♦ The virtual registration fee is \$50 if registered by June 28. Virtual registration includes a choice of three live-streamed workshops per hour over three days and the two keynote speakers. Sessions will be available to view for three months.
- ♦ One hour of graduate credit is available from Drake University, Morningside College, or Grandview University for \$130. More information is available on the website.
- ♦ The in-person registration fee is \$435 if registered by June 1. Full registration includes all conference meals, breaks, and traveling workshop on June 29.



Hands-on mAGic lessons updated & available online for free

Check out the updated hands-on lessons at

<https://www.ilaged.org/AITC>

These mAGic lessons are designed to bring agriculture to life in your classroom. They address the Illinois Learning Standards in math, science, English language arts and social studies.

So far 28 lessons covering a variety of Illinois agriculture topics have been posted. Another 36 lessons covering plants, insects, and soil will be available by May 18. Poultry, dairy, and machines will be available this summer.

While all these lessons are available online, we do still have these hands-on learning kits available on a free loan basis. The kits contain additional resources and supplies to complete the activities with your students.



Summer Agricultural Institute

June 22-23, 2021 in Carlinville

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15 professional development hours



Investigate Illinois' #1 industry - agriculture! While employing nearly 1 million people, agriculture generates more than \$19 billion annually to Illinois' economy. Come explore firsthand some of these many careers and aspects of the industry around us. Join us as we help you learn how agriculture can help you address the standards. Participants will leave with resources to share with students. During these two days, educators will

- try hands-on multidisciplinary activities all correlated to the Illinois Learning Standards
- build first-hand knowledge through traveling workshops showcasing the diversity of agriculture
- examine issues of food production including food safety
- receive engaging, classroom ready resources
- earn 15 professional development hours
- learn about grant money for projects

Traveling workshop topics will include:

- ♦ **Specialty crops:** Learn about a diverse farming operation including specialty crops such as strawberries, asparagus, blackberries, blueberries, and peaches; homegrown products including canned and baked goods; and traditional crops of corn, soybeans, and wheat.
- **Agriculture cooperative:** Participants will learn about the services they provide, crop development in the research plots, utilization of fertilizers and chemicals, grain handling and marketing, precision agriculture, and more.
- **Equipment manufacturing:** Participants will tour a farm equipment manufacturer of over 400 implements designed to assist farmers, contractors, large property owner, landscapers, and others to be more productive.



Cost: free as program sponsorship will cover hands-on activity supplies and other expenses

Note: Due to Covid guidelines, participants will be given an hour break for lunch each day to dine out at a local restaurant or may bring a lunch. Participants will be driving to area traveling workshop sites on their own. Sites will be within 30 miles of Carlinville. We will be following Covid guidelines in effect at the time which may include wearing face coverings and social distancing.

Deadline: Space is limited - please register by **May 24**. **Registration form** is available at

<https://form.jotform.com/211264575858061>



To learn more, please contact Macoupin County Agricultural Literacy Coordinator
Connie Niemann at 217-854-9604 or e-mail cniemann@illinois.edu.

Family & Classroom Resources

<https://beyondthebarndoor.wordpress.com/>

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom

- ◆ Everyday Agriculture section has activities on lots of topics for all ages. Explore other states through the scrambled states section.
- ◆ Author interviews
- ◆ Virtual field trips to:

beef farm	Clarkson Grain
dairy farm	Staley Museum
pork farm	United Soils
apple orchard	Pollinator Plot Field Trip to the Brookfield Zoo
pumpkin farm	Mt. Pulaski Courthouse
corn harvest	Pro Football Hall of Fame
soybean harvest	Mannie L. Jackson
popcorn harvest	University of Illinois
Helmig's tree farm	Basketball Hall of Fame

<https://aqclassroom.org/student/virtual/>

National Agriculture in the Classroom



<https://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/schools-online>

Illinois Extension's educational resources that will help students understand important information about topics that touch their everyday lives. These educational units are free and available to use in any classroom or home school environment.

Thank you, Program Sponsors!

Platinum Level (\$1,500 and up)

University of IL Extension - Macoupin County
Macoupin County Farm Bureau
Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom
M & M Service Company
Macoupin County Food Festival
Corteva Agriscience

Gold Level (\$500 - \$1,499)

Brandt Consolidated, Inc.
Litchfield National Bank
Macoupin Co. Soil & Water Conservation Dist.
Sievers Equipment Company

Silver Level (\$250 - \$499)

CNB Bank & Trust
Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.
United Community Bank
Bank & Trust Company
Dan Metz-COUNTRY Financial® Representative
First National Bank of Litchfield
First National Bank of Raymond
JR Earley -COUNTRY Financial® Agency Mgr.
Plaza Truck Service & Equipment
Smoky Jennings Chevrolet, Inc.
Soil-Right Consulting Services, Inc.
Tina Olroyd-COUNTRY Financial® Representative
Warren Boynton State Bank

Bronze Level (\$100 - \$249)

Macoupin County Pork Producers
Duda Ace Hardware
Mennel Milling Company of Illinois
Steven O'Dell-COUNTRY Financial® Representative
Area Diesel Service, Inc.
Backwoods Berry Farm
Bill's IGA
Bank of Springfield
Carlinville Rotary Club
CHS - Shipman
Farm Credit Illinois - Jerseyville
Farmers State Bank of Medora
Holzwarth Flying Service
Karmak, Inc.
Linda Worlow, State Farm Insurance Agent
McKay NAPA Auto Parts
Prairie State Bank & Trust
The Scouler Company
Sloan Implement Company
Sonneborn Brothers
Sorrells Farm Supply, Inc.