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## *Upcoming Professional Development Opportunity*

### **Get a Grant Workshop Wednesday, September 18**

Location: 220 N. Broad, Carlinville  
2 professional development hours  
Register by September 10

Come learn about project and book grants ranging from \$250 - \$300 available from Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom. Learn what types of projects grant money will cover.

Explore each book available and learn common core activities to go along with it. The book categories are biography, poetry, Hungry Planet, and Earth Day. See grant article in this newsletter for a list of books.

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



## *\$250-300 Available for Resources*

Looking for funds to supplement your established teaching units or provide more books for your classroom or library? Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom has 6 grants available which are due by **October 11**.

Preschool-High School teachers are eligible for \$300 **project grants** to purchase classroom resources. You choose the project and non-consumable materials for classroom use integrating agriculture into a variety of curriculum areas.

In addition, five book themed grants valued up to \$250 are available. Teachers choose from a preselected list of books in the quantities of their choice.

**Earth Day** books offered *Compost Stew*, *Diary of a Worm*, *Hey Water*, *We are the Gardeners*, *Jump into Science: Dirt*.

**Pollinator** books offered *Flight of the Honey Bees*; *Monarch Butterflies*; *My, Oh My a Butterfly*; *The Honey Makers*; *When the Bees Fly Home*.

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## *Teachers Explore Agriculture*

Eighteen educators from Christian, Greene, Jersey, and Macoupin counties explored more about agriculture during the Summer Agricultural Institute conducted by the Macoupin County Agricultural Literacy Program June 10-13. During the institute, educators toured several sites and tried hands-on activities as they learned more about the agriculture industry. Educators earned 30 professional development hours or two graduate credits for the institute.

Traveling workshops included Baisch & Skinner, Corteva Agriscience Litchfield Pioneer Seed Production Facility, Danforth Plant Science Center, McDonnell Genome Institute, Ronnoco Coffee, and the St. Louis Science Center GROW exhibit. Educators learned about the wholesale flower market, seed production, plant science, genome sequencing, coffee processing, and more through these stops.

Teachers completed many hands-on activities and received resources to use in their classrooms from different presenters.

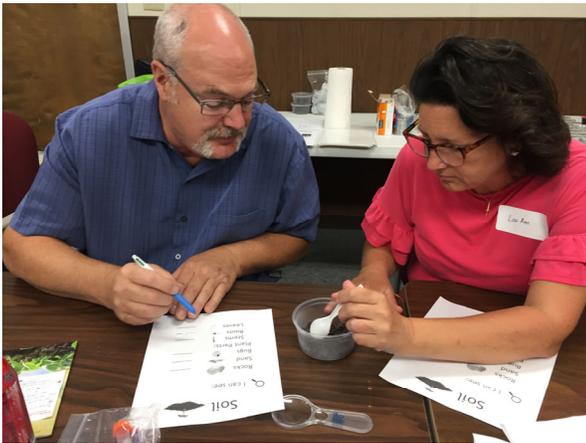
Presenters included Brad Banning from IL Agriculture in the Classroom, Kacie Haag and Macie Hurst from IL Corn Marketing Board, Julie Blunier from IL Soybean Association, Jill Williams from St. Louis District Dairy Council, Beth Groves from Montgomery County Agricultural Literacy Program, and Connie Niemann from Macoupin County Agricultural Literacy Program.

On their evaluation one teacher commented: "It is always a great institute. I learn so much and always come out inspired and have so much I am ready to share in the classroom and with colleagues." Attending a summer agricultural institute provides an educator with so many free resources," commented another teacher on their evaluation. Another educator said, "lots of great resources, great way to earn CPDU's, once in a lifetime experiences."

This program and all the resources are made possible by local sponsors. We appreciate the support of these sponsors and our traveling workshop sites that helped make this institute a success.



During the Summer Agricultural Institute, teachers learned more about agriculture through traveling workshops which included Corteva Agriscience Litchfield Pioneer Seed Production Facility. Pictured from left to right front row: Steve Hicks & Tony Herman – Corteva; Jessica Kimble, Shelley Watts, Kelli Rahe, and Amy Steward – Carrollton Grade School; Maggie Bick – Brussels Grade School; Alison Sibert and Karyssa Tefertiller – Carrollton Grade School; Becky Lorts – St. Mary School; Nicole Emery – Greenfield Elementary; and Mike Tooley – Corteva. Back row: Derek Birkenkamp – Corteva; Chad Brodbeck and Amy Manker – Brussels Schools; Julie Breden – Jerseyville High School; Karen Kinder – St. Mary School; Patty Kulenkamp – Carrollton Grade School; Richard Cooper – North Mac Middle School; Julie Heyen – Mt. Olive Junior High; Lou Ann Ibberson – North Mac Elementary; Maureen Tepen – St. Mary School; Chris Short and Kevin Clark – Corteva.



North Mac teachers Richard Cooper and Lou Ann Ibberson dig into soil exploration during the Summer Agricultural Institute.



As a part of the Summer Agricultural Institute traveling workshops, teachers learned about the wholesale flower market at Baisch and Skinner in St. Louis.

## ***\$250-300 Available for Resources continued***

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**Biographies** books offered *Full of Beans*, *Henry Ford Grows a Car*; *Farmer George Plants a Nation*; *Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation*; *John Deere, That's Who!*; *George Washington Carver for Kids*.

**Poetry** books offered *Hey, Hey, Hay*; *Jo MacDonald had a Garden*; *Popcorn*

*Astronauts*; *Science Verse*; *Water is Water*; *When Green Becomes Tomatoes*.

**Hungry Planet** books offered *Hungry Planet* and *What the World Eats*.

More details, applications, judging criteria and sample applications are available at [www.agintheclassroom.org](http://www.agintheclassroom.org)

## ***Calendar provides reminder that agriculture is everyday!***

At the beginning of the school year, you received a new classroom calendar featuring agricultural photos, facts, and recommended readings. Please be sure to save this calendar as it is part of a three year series to have the complete life cycle of these agricultural commodities.

Here are some ways educators have used this resource:

- Read fact as a part of daily routine.
- Use for writing or journaling ideas.
- Display in areas that students line up or visit daily so they can read it.

- Share along with daily school announcements.
- Use for bulletin boards - collect series and use both pictures and facts.
- Learn some new terminology each month.
- Utilize monthly topics to spur further exploration and activities.



# Agricultural Literacy Trivia

1. Eleven basketballs, 144 baseballs, or 20 footballs can be made from what?
2. How many taste buds does a pig's tongue contain?
3. What is the gestation (pregnancy) period for a cow?
4. What is the gestation (pregnancy) period for a pig?
5. How much milk does an average dairy cow produce a day?
6. What is the number one protein consumed in the U.S.?
7. What unit of measurement is used to measure the height of a horse?
8. Who used soybeans in paint and plastics when manufacturing automobiles in the 1940's?



1. One cowhide can make 11 basketballs, 144 baseballs, or 20 footballs.
2. A pig's tongue contains 15,000 taste buds compared to 9,000 on a human's tongue.
3. The gestation (pregnancy) period for a cow is 9 months.
4. The gestation (pregnancy) period for a pig is approximately 3 months, 3 weeks, and 3 days.
5. The average dairy cow produces 8-10 gallons or more than 100 glasses of milk a day.
6. Chicken is the number one protein consumed in the U.S.
7. A hand which is equal to four inches is used to measure a horse's height.
8. In the 1940's, Henry Ford used soybeans in paint and plastics in his automobiles. Soybeans continue to be used in Ford vehicles in a variety of ways today.



## 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  
 DuPont Pioneer  
 M & M Service Company

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

Brandt Consolidated, Inc.  
 CHS - Shipman  
 Litchfield National Bank  
 Macoupin County Food Festival  
 Sievers Equipment Company

### Silver Level (\$250 - \$499)

CNB Bank & Trust  
 Macoupin Co. Soil & Water Conservation Dist.  
 Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.  
 United Community Bank  
 Bank & Trust Company  
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 Smoky Jennings Chevrolet, Inc.  
 SoilRight LLC  
 Tina Olroyd-COUNTRY Financial® Representative  
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### Bronze Level (\$100 - \$249)

Macoupin County Pork Producers  
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 First National Bank in Staunton  
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 Area Diesel Service, Inc.  
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 Farm Credit Illinois - Jerseyville  
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