

Connecting to Agriculture

Fall 2022

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Back to School, Baseball, Football, History Posters Available

- ⇒ California cedar trees are most commonly used in pencils due to the non-warping features, and a classroom of 32 students, each carrying 5 new 100 page notebooks use the wood from roughly one tree?
- ⇒ Hand sanitizer can be made with alcohol produced from Illinois corn.
- ⇒ Cash used to buy school lunches, fees, and supplies are printed on 75% cotton and 25% linen according to the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Cotton and linen are both made from plants.

How does baseball, football, and IL history connect to agriculture? Check out the other free posters available on page 3.



Check out more facts on the new, free Back to School with Agriculture posters.

Calendar Reminds Agriculture is Everyday



The new classroom calendar you received features 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.

Ways educators have used the calendar:

- 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 on school menus for fun facts.
- 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.

Educator Agventure Institute

Fourteen educators from Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Randolph counties explored more about agriculture during the Summer Agricultural Institute conducted by the Macoupin County Agricultural Literacy Program June 20-23. During the institute, educators toured several sites and tried hands-on activities as they learned more about the agriculture industry. Educators earned up to 30 professional development hours or two graduate credits.



Traveling workshops included Bayer Crop Science (pictured above), Holzwarth Flying Service (pictured top right), Jarden's Dairy Farm (pictured bottom right), McKay Corporation & Distribution Center, Mennel Milling Company of Illinois, Otter Lake Water Treatment Facility, Prairie Farms Dairy, Rhodes Angus, Waldbart & Sons Nursery, and Worksaver, Inc.

Teachers completed many hands-on activities, learned more about agriculture and career opportunities, and received resources to use in their classrooms from different presenters. Presenters included Gail Bradburn from Karmak; Mallory Kahl from Area Diesel Service; Jared Ruholl & Larry Miller from Farm Service Agency; Rhonda Koehne from Macoupin County Soil & Water Conservation District; Olivia Hoots from Illinois Beef Association; Stephanie Hospelhorn from Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom; and Connie Niemann from Macoupin County Agricultural Literacy Program

On their evaluation one teacher commented: "It is a very eye-opening experience to see



what kinds of different jobs that go into different businesses and seeing what all is involved. It is very interesting!" Another teacher said, "There is so much to learn about various agricultural topics that can be incorporated into lessons and the knowledge I gained listening to the many speakers at the sights we went to." One teacher said, "It opens your eyes to how much science is in agriculture." Another teacher shared, "Summer Institute is a lot of fun and a great learning experience.

The following educators attended the institute: Anna Allen and Hallie Campbell - North Mac Elementary; Amy Bethard - Farmersville Grade School; Chad Brodbeck - Brussels School District; Kristie Bushnell and Patty Kulenkamp - Carrollton Grade School; Nicole Emery - Greenfield; Tracy Favre and Lindsey Knes - Litchfield School District; Deb Heinemann, Karen Lemon, and Linda Stone - St. Mary in Taylorville; David Raymond - Bunker Hill High School; and Jennie Satterlee - Coulterville High School.



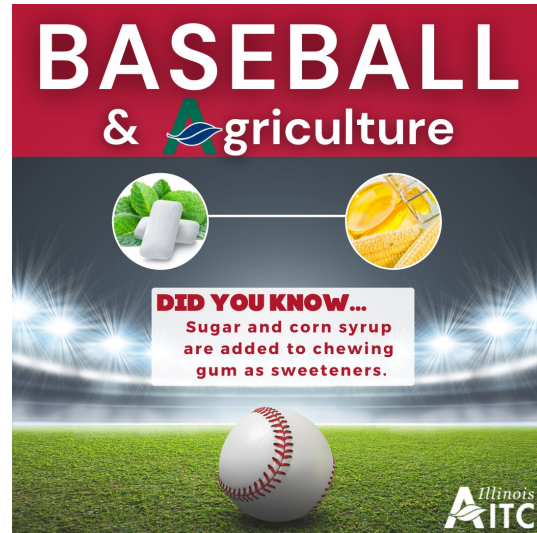
This program and all the resources are made possible by local sponsors. We appreciate the support of these sponsors and our traveling workshop sites that helped make this institute a success. We hope to offer another institute next summer.

Back to School, Baseball, Football, History Posters Available

continued from page 1

- An official baseball used in the major leagues is formed by yarn wound around a core made from cork, rubber or a similar material. Lower quality baseballs have cores made from cotton.
- Many of your favorite sodas are sweetened with corn syrup.
- That game day hot dog includes pork and beef in a wheat bun with ketchup from tomatoes and relish from cucumbers.
- Nachos are made from food grade corn flour topped with cheese made from dairy cows.
- Today's official bat is a smooth round stick made of one piece of solid wood. It must be no more than 2.6 inches in diameter at its thickest part and no more than 42 inches long. The best bats are made from wood from northern ash trees.

To get your free posters, contact Connie at cniemann@illinois.edu or 217-854-9604. Both large (36"x24") and small (18"x12") two-sided posters are available. Back to School



with Agriculture is paired with Football & Agriculture. Baseball & Agriculture is paired with Illinois History.

Resources to go along with these topics:

Two minute Back to School with Agriculture video available on IAITC's YouTube channel.

<https://youtu.be/3ahRoleeCJY>

Back to School with Agriculture lesson

go.illinois.edu/Back-School-Ag

Baseball Charm

go.illinois.edu/BaseballCharm

Find more at agintheclassroom.org.

Hands-on mAGic Lessons Online

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.

There are 100 lessons covering a variety of Illinois agriculture topics, plants, insects, soils, dairy, poultry and machines are available. Most of the lessons cover multiple disciplines designed for 4th-8th grades. 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.



Classroom Project & Book Grants

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom grant applications are due October 14. They have book grants and classroom project grants available this school year. Book Grants allow teachers to apply for \$250 in books from one of the themed collections. Project grants are \$300 and can be applied to projects that incorporate agriculture-related themes into a content-area classroom. Additional information and application available at www.agintheclassroom.org.



Adopt-A-Calf

Time to sign up to Adopt-A-Calf with the St. Louis District Dairy Council. The no-cost program allows classes to “adopt” a calf from one of their farmers, name it, and receive monthly pictures and updates. E-mail updates will arrive from a local dairy farmer from September through May. While the majority of content is geared toward young students, any grade level can adopt a calf. Visit stldairycouncil.org and look under programs to learn more and sign up. The deadline is September 16.



Websites to Visit

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom
agintheclassroom.org

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom blog site
beyondthebarndoor.wordpress.com

Illinois Farm Families watchusgrow.org

National Agriculture in the Classroom
agclassroom.org

My American Farm myamericanfarm.org

U of I Extension Schools Online
extension.illinois.edu/global/schools-online

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 Fair
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
Bank of Springfield
Dan Metz-COUNTRY Financial® Representative
Farm Credit Illinois - Jerseyville
Family Farms, LLC.
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
Worksaver, Inc.

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
Carlinville Rotary Club
Chesterfield State Bank
CHS - Shipman
Holzwarth Flying Service
Karmak, Inc.
Linda Worlow, State Farm Insurance Agent
Macoupin Veterinary Services
McKay NAPA Auto Parts
Prairie State Bank & Trust
The Scoular Company
Sloan Implement Company
Sonneborn Brothers
Sorrells Farm Supply, Inc.
Vixen Hill Winery