

Connecting to Agriculture

Spring 2023

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Upcoming Professional Development Opportunity

**Educator Adventure
Summer Agricultural Institute**
June 20-21
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Carlinville

Registration by **May 25** *Space is limited.*
Participants earn 14 professional development hours

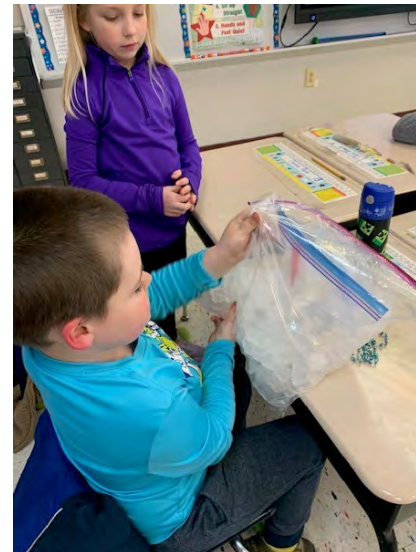
More information on this institute for K-12 educators is inside this newsletter.



Carlinville Teacher's Grant Project

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom grant winner Cathy Kulenkamp who teaches first grade at Carlinville Primary shares how they used the grant: "This year I took advantage of the opportunity to apply for a Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Book Grant. I chose a book from the STEM in Agriculture category. Our classroom also participated in the Adopt a Calf opportunity sponsored by the St. Louis District Dairy Council. Every month students made connections with monthly emails giving updates on the calf we adopted. They learned that milk comes from a cow and what a cow needs to produce milk.

cream. The STEM activity from the book was a perfect way to introduce coding in the classroom using Osmo and interactive coding games. I appreciate the Ag in the Classroom opportunity to



Our cumulative activity was to make ice cream in a baggie after reading about ice

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bring Ag related books to my first grade classroom.”

Tiffany Hanslow, Patty Ringhausen, and Holly Campbell from the Southwestern School District received project grants.

Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom grant applications are due October 20. They have book grants and classroom project grants available for next school year. Book Grants allow teachers to apply for \$250 in books from one of their 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 agintheclassroom.org.

Looking for examples of previous Project Grants to gain inspiration or for ways to integrate Book Grant books into your curriculum? Attend Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom's virtual Get-A-Grant Workshop on August 9, 2023.

Visit <http://iaitc.co/getagrant> to register!

Grab a Seat at the Table

Would you like to know more about your food and the people who grow and raise it? Ever wonder about the information you hear as you try to make informed choices?

Learn more from the families growing good food for all of us and other experts as they share their perspectives and provide you with accurate information to make informed choices on the Illinois Farm Families website. You'll find they don't all farm alike or have the same answers to every question. What they do have is a commitment to providing safe, healthy food for every table.



they visit Illinois farms. They bring along their cameras and smartphones to farm tours, write their experiences on the blog and even share Illinois agriculture inspired recipes. Consider joining the conversation. You may want to sign up for their monthly newsletter and follow them on social media.

Did you know 96% of all farms in Illinois are family-owned? If you thought it was just faceless corporations “managing” these fields and animals from afar, we hope you're pleasantly surprised. Because what you'll find on Illinois farms are families, just like yours.



Explore perspectives from parents and experts in food, health and nutrition fields, as

Check out watchusgrow.org

Online Student Resources - Games, Career Seeker, Tours & More

Would you like to help your students continue learning online? Looking for some summer enrichment activities?

Check out the National Agriculture in the Classroom's Student Resource Center. AgBadging and games for all ages available. Explore agriculture in other states. Take virtual tours.

Consider all the careers in agriculture that make a difference in the way we live – our food, clothing, shelter, health, and our environment! Check your Ag Smarts, compete with friends, and learn more about where you get the stuff you use every day.

To help connect students to agriculture, visit agclassroom.org/student

Educator Agventure

Summer Agricultural Institute

June 20-21, 2023

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in Carlinville

14 professional development hours



Investigate Illinois' #1 industry - agriculture! While employing nearly 1 million people, agriculture generates more than \$25 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 this institute, 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
- receive engaging, classroom-ready resources while earning professional development hours
- learn about grant money for projects

Traveling workshop and institute topics will include:

- **Agricultural technology and equipment:** Learn about the latest technology, electronics manufacturing, and equipment along with worldwide sales and service through two agribusiness tours.
- **Agricultural promotion and regulations:** Hear from these advocates for Illinois' agricultural industry who provide the necessary regulatory functions to benefit consumers, agricultural industry, and our natural resources.
- **Drainage pipe manufacturer:** See how they produce plastic pipe solutions for the agricultural, residential/building, commercial, and highway markets.
- **Hands-on activities:** Explore hands-on agricultural activities and receive resources to use in the classrooms.

Cost: institute fee \$25 (includes meals, hands-on activity supplies, & classroom resources)

Note: Participants will be driving to area traveling workshop sites on their own or arranging to carpool with other educators. Sites will be within 60 miles of Carlinville.

Deadline: Please register by **May 25** as space is limited. The registration form is available at

go.illinois.edu/Agventure2023

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



Agricultural Literacy Trivia

1. What food containing about 200 seeds is a member of the rose family?
2. What stem related to onions, leeks, and garlic grows 5"-8" tall and is rich in vitamin C?
3. What percentage of farms are family-owned?
4. How much does a dairy cow eat and drink daily?
5. True or false. Chocolate milk comes from brown cows.
6. In honor of National Hamburger month, where did the hamburger make its international debut?
7. How much meat comes from a 1,000 pound animal?



1. Strawberries average about 200 seeds and are members of the rose family.
2. Asparagus. Did you know May is National Asparagus month?
3. 96% of all farms in Illinois are family-owned.
4. A dairy cow will eat about 100 pounds of feed and drink about a bathtub full of water each day (30-50 gallons). A cow eats a combination of hay, silage, corn, soybean meal, vitamins, and minerals.
5. False. Chocolate milk is made by adding chocolate flavoring to milk. All dairy cows give white milk.
6. The hamburger made its international debut at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.
7. A 1,000 pound cow yields 432 pounds of meat

ANSWERS



Thank you, Program Sponsors!

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