



Ag in the Classroom

Resources for Teachers

Agricultural Kits

Agricultural Kits are available for teachers who teach students Kindergarten through third grade. The kits help students learn about agriculture by applying these lessons to information the students already know. If you are in Boone or Winnebago County contact Diane Cleland at wfbaitc@live.com to reserve a kit, or if you are in Ogle County contact Melinda Charbonneau at charbm@illinois.edu

Eggsploring Poultry: Cracking the Egg

Crack the mystery of eggs and see a miracle in 21 days. Eggsploring Poultry is filled with books on embryology, videos, poultry facts, games, and other activities.



- **Books included:** Egg, The Rooster's Gift, Life cycle of a Chicken, Chickens Aren't the only Ones, Inside an Egg
- This kit usually is sent out to classrooms when they participate in the egg hatching project, however it can also be used to teach a lesson like the other kit

Getting to the Core: Apples and Orchards

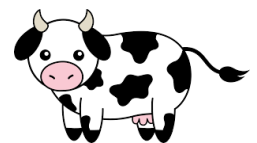


How do apples grow? Where do all those varieties of apples come from? Learn all the answers to these questions and so much more while taking an inside look at apples and their history. Getting to the core includes a lot of hands on activities, games, things to make and things to eat, videos, posters, and books.

- **Books included:** How Do apples Grow?, An Apple Tree Through The Year, The Seasons of Arnolds Apple Tree, Hooray for Orchards!, Food Apples, Life on an Apple Orchard, The Apple Guys, and Apples, Apples, Apples

Dairy Cow Capers: Exploring Dairy Farming and Nutrition

Explore dairy farming in action. Through videos and books, experience the life of dairy cows on the farm and see a veterinarian at work. Follow the path milk takes as it travels from cow to you. Learn about the nutritional value of dairy products and try your hand at making



- **Books included:** Cow, The Milk Makers, Milk from Cow to Carton, and Hooray for Dairy Farming!

Pumpkin Patch: A Vine Through Time



Discover the wonders of Pumpkins. Watch tiny seed transform into several varieties of pumpkins in a time lapse video and learn how to prepare the soil for next year's crop. This kit contains posters, books, hands-on activities, recipes, and fascinating pumpkin facts!

- **Books included:** Pumpkin Circle, Kids' Pumpkin Projects, The Pumpkin Patch, Farmer George Plants a Nation, and Pumpkin, Pumpkin

Pondering Pizza: A Slice of Agriculture

Take a look at a piece of agriculture... a slice of pizza! Learn how all of the ingredients on your pizza begin on the farm, is processed, distributed, and made into a delicious meal. Explore Pizza Planet via video and start your very own "pizza farm" while taking part in the action through the Pizza Party fractions game, hands on activities, books, posters, curriculum, and allow your students to ponder the wonders of Pizza!





- **Books included:** The Story of Wheat, Curious George and the Pizza, and Hold the Anchovies!

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More Agricultural Kits

These particular kits come with books and movies as well as a binder full of activities and lessons separated into categories. If you teach in Boone or Winnebago County please contact Diane Cleland at wfbaitc@live.com to reserve a kit. If you teach in Ogle County please contact Melinda Charbonneau at charbm@illinois.edu

The Wheat We Eat



Teach your students how wheat is grown, milled, and then made into foods worldwide. The resources in this kit will help students learn about the people who make bread, places where bread is made, and the different ways to make bread, pasta, and many other wheat based foods.

- **Books included:** The Story of Wheat, Bread Comes to Life, Food Bread, From Wheat to Pasta, and Bread, Bread, Bread

Seasons on the Farm

The lessons and materials in this kit will help students understand how agriculture revolves around all of the seasons and how the farm brings us many lessons about winter, spring, summer, and fall. Students will learn that while we go to the store to purchase our food, it begins with plants or animals being raised on farms. Different seasons provide us with a variety of foods and other products.



- **Books included:** It's Winter, It's Fall, It's Spring, Sunshine Makes the Seasons, Discover the Seasons, The Reasons for Seasons, etc.

Adventures on the Farm

The lessons and materials in this kit will help students understand what a farm is, what farmers do, and what comes from farms. They will also learn about the many different kinds of farms that exist. Students will realize that while we buy our food from the store, it begins with plants and animals that are raised on farms. This is the heart of the agriculture industry.

- **Books included:** Petting Farm, A Day in the Life of a Farmer, All Around the Farm, and Where Does Food Come From?, etc.

Pigs Around the Farm

This kit will help students understand what pigs are, how farmers care for pigs, and the benefits people gain from pigs. Pigs provide us with a variety of food and non-food products, which students will realize starts on a farm and ends up in the stores after this lesson.



- **Books included:** Welcome to our Farm, Pigs, Pigs & Pork, A Hog Ate my Homework!, etc.

Other kits are available with many hands-on activities!

Middle School

- Horticulture Science Kit – Includes activities, seed trays, soil, etc. to plant and observe growth
- What Does a Soybean want to be when it Grows Up? Kit – Includes experiments for students using soybeans
- Agriculture Careers Kit – Includes information about different agriculture based careers.

Grades 1-3



- On the Farm: General Agriculture Kit- Includes many books for early readers to learn about life on a farm with some activities for classes to do together!

MAGic kits are developed to meet learning standards in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies for grades fourth through eighth. Kits include lesson plans and supplies for activities and exercises. The activities included are: mapping, graphing, sequencing, reading, writing, critical thinking, experimenting, and research. Kits can be checked out or arrangements can be made to have lessons presented to your class.

SOIL mAGic

Soils are alive, as students will discover through the lesson in this kit. Students will learn to conduct experiments in soil pH, create soil profiles, and understand the components of soils. They will also unveil the history of crop rotation and dig into the Dust Bowl!



PLANT mAGic

This kit offers problem-solving activities in plant propagation, production, and processing. Students will conduct experiments to learn about plant differences and plant ecosystems. They'll also sequence plant products, research the discoveries of George Washington Carver, and look at the impact of crops on the national economy.



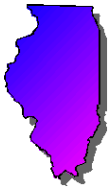
INSECT mAGic

Students will learn about the impact of insects on crop production through a variety of lessons and activities. Mapping exercises let students follow butterflies on migration patterns. Students track a day in the life of an insect and learn about wingspan, life cycles, anatomy, and social hierarchy patterns of common insects.



ILLINOIS mAGic

Prairies, Ronald Reagan, Chicago, John Deere, and the Big Blue Stem: This kit covers everything Illinois. The lessons in this kit highlight the six geographic regions of the state. Therefore, students can explore the geographical diversity of Illinois.



MACHINE mAGic

Students will learn about the history of farm machinery and the impact of modern farming techniques on families and communities. They'll also learn how inventors John Deere and Cyrus McCormick helped shape modern agriculture. Hands-on exercises let students identify machinery parts and estimate cost.



POULTRY mAGic

Students will uncover interesting facts about U.S. poultry production through exercises and hands-on experiments. They'll learn about the anatomy and nutritional value of an egg. Students will also learn about the history of egg production and find out how poultry dishes are prepared around the world.



DAIRY mAGic

Hands-on exercises let students explore the processes of using milk, acids, enzymes, and bacteria to make cottage cheese, yogurt, and ice cream. Students will find out how much milk a cow produces in a lifetime, learn about the issues of supply and demand in the dairy industry, and dive in to so history.

