

Agriculture in the Classroom

Newsletter for Teachers Spring 2004

This newsletter is sponsored by the **Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation** to help students and teachers understand the important role of agriculture in Oregon and the United States. For more information, contact Agriculture in the Classroom at Oregon State University, visit our Web site at <http://AITC.oregonstate.edu> or call (541) 737-8629.

View Pictures of On-Line Resource Materials and New Additions to FREE Loan Library



Now when you look at our Web site, you can view pictures of the materials. We recently purchased over 100 books for our resource library and they are now posted on our Web site. Titles include: *Eat Your Vegetables! Drink Your Milk!, It's A Good Thing There Are Insects, Vegetables, Vegetables!,*

Life in a Tide Pool, Horses, Horses, Horses, Bees, Pigs, Cows, and It's Science! Plants and Flowers among others. After you view the new resources, you can order them on-line for your classroom. Please remember to return resources via MEDIA MAIL to reduce your cost.

Tour Canby ABC Trailer at Ag Fest, April 24-25 in Salem

Explore and experience the sights, sounds, tastes and delights of Oregon agriculture. Visit our Teacher Resource area in Ag Country. Children 12 and under are FREE. More information is posted on our Web site under *What's New*. The ABC Trailer, or Agriculture Biotechnology Classroom, is an interactive learning place developed by the students at Canby High School to teach Agriculture and Biotechnology Awareness. The trailer has activities for all ages, from milking "Suzie the cow" to trying your

hand at plant micro-propagation. The trailer features displays of all kinds sharing facts and educating the public about Agriculture. The ABC trailer will make its grand opening at the Oregon Ag Fest. Students will be giving demonstrations both days.

Calendar Contest

Your students can submit their artwork about Oregon agriculture until May 31, 2004. Remember each student will receive a personalized certificate.

Certificate for Student Artwork



Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation

Katie Michele

has completed the AITC calendar contest

Tami Kerr
Program Director

Date

New Curriculum for Grades 4-5

The new curriculum is ready to be used in your classroom. Workshops will be scheduled for this summer and fall. If you attend a 3 hour workshop you will receive a free copy of the curriculum. There are 28 new lessons that focus on Oregon's agricultural commodities and include agricultural topics such as agricultural careers, horticulture, beef, dairy, grass seed, berries, wheat, water, nutrition and the environment. Each lesson meets Oregon benchmark standards.



FAQ... About the Calendar Contest & AITC

Q - When is the deadline for the calendar contest?

A - May 31, 2004.

Q - What grade levels can participate in the calendar contest?

A - Public, private, and home school students in grades K-6 and can submit artwork.

Q - Why do I need to send a typed list with my students first and last names?

A - We send personalized certificates for each student and we want to spell each name correctly. The last name of students is not listed in the calendar.

Q - If my child's classroom is not participating in the contest, can I submit their artwork?

A - Yes, parents can enter their children's artwork.

Q - Are all students artwork entered in the contest and when is the artwork selected for the calendar?

A - Yes, every piece of student artwork is eligible for the 2004-05 school year calendar. A committee selects 13 pictures for the calendar. They will also select the Honorable Mention artwork. Last year 35 H.M. pictures were identified, they are all on our web site and are on display at the Oregon Department of Agriculture, outside of the Director's office. All of the students that were selected as honorable Mention received a letter of congratulations.

Q - What suggestions do you have for students that want to enter the contest?

A - Lots of color and creativity is encouraged. We want pictures that showcase the diversity of Oregon agriculture from seafood and blueberries to grass seed, mint, potatoes, onions, dairy products, pears, hazelnuts, Christmas trees, wheat, sheep, flowers, watermelons, alfalfa, and cattle and calves. Please submit artwork in a horizontal position. If you have any questions, please call our office at 541-737-8629. For a complete list of Oregon commodities or to download entry forms, visit our Web site at <http://AITC.oregonstate.edu>.

Q - How long can I borrow AITC materials for my classroom and is anything required of me?

A - Materials are sent for 3 weeks. Since we purchase the resource materials, your prompt return allows us to have a wider variety of resources. A participation form and a return address label is included. We need to know how many students used the materials and any comments you have about the quality of the resources. Your information is confidential. We simply need to have the numbers of students for fundraising purposes.

Earn 3 Grad Credits at the Summer Ag Institute (SAI)

Space is still available in both the Corvallis session June 20-25 and the LaGrande session July 18-23. For more information about the Oregon Agriculture Education Foundation's program, visit our Web site and click on *Teacher Workshops*. The cost is only \$400 for the week and includes tuition, meals, lodging and tours. Visit our Web site for the application. Class size is limited so submit your application early. During the week of SAI you will tour processing plants, farms, nurseries and businesses. There are lectures and hands-on labs taught by university professors and professionals from the agricultural industry. The highlight of the week is an overnight stay on a working farm or ranch where the teacher has an opportunity to meet and work with agriculturists.



Featured Resources



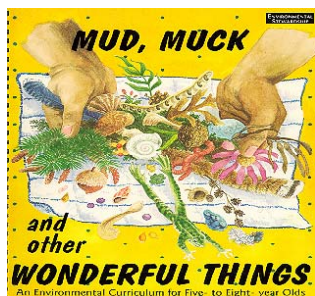
Contact Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) for more information or to reserve the following materials, Tami.Kerr@oregonstate.edu, (541) 737-8629, or view our free-loan resource library online at <http://aitc.oregonstate.edu>

Educational Units

Mud, Muck and other Wonderful Things

Grades K-4 (Instructional Unit)

Ecological concepts covered include water cycles, sun energy, the food web, weather cycles, renewable resources, and plant and animal roles in the ecosystem. Land stewardship is stressed. **Free loan from Oregon AIRC.**



Horticulture Series

Grades 3-12 (Books)

Budding Gardeners, Branching Out, Digging Deeper, and Helpers Guide

These books offers activities for in-door gardening, out-door gardening, flower arranging, composting and basic plant science. Whether you live in a high-rise apartment or have a large garden, this project has something for you. While developing skill in horticulture, youth will be practicing valuable life skills such as communication, decision-making and problem solving. The guides are adapted to classrooms, after school programs and individual members. **Free loan from Oregon AIRC.**



Entomology:

Grades 3-8 (Books)

Creepy Crawlies, What's Bugging You, Dragons Houses and Other Flies, and Helpers Guide

Three activity guides invite youth to explore the fascinating world of entomology and learn valuable life skills through hands-on activities. Helper's guide provides helpful hints, supplementary information and group activities. **Free loan from Oregon AIRC.**



Gardening:

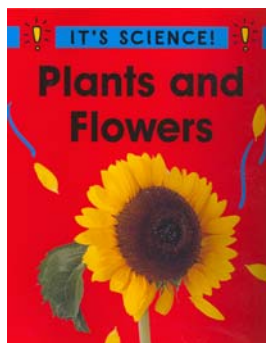
See Them Sprout: Grades 3-4

Lets Get Growing: Grades 5-6

Take Your Pick: Grades 7-9

Growing Profits: Grades 10-12

Four grade-level activity guides with exciting activities in six major categories: Garden Planning, Planting a Garden, While You Wait, Garden Care, Harvesting and Storage and Careers. Helper's Guide offers activities, ideas and content to help leaders with their challenging and exciting role. The guide contains additional background information, and group activities. **Free loan from Oregon AIRC.**



This book is one of the new additions to our resource library. Visit our Web site to learn more about this book and others that you can use in your classroom.



Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation
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Yes! Please add my name to the Agriculture in the Classroom mailing list.

Teachers will receive our newsletter, school year calendar, workshop information, and other educational resources for our program. The mailing list is confidential and will not be released.

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail to:

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