

The Teacher Newsletter Oregon



Winter 2001

Agriculture In The Classroom Foundation

This newsletter is **sponsored by the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and the Oregon Beef Council**, to help students and teachers understand the important role of agriculture in Oregon and the United States. For more information, contact the Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) Program Director, Tami Kerr, at Oregon State University, (541) 737-8629, aitc@orst.edu, or visit our home page at <http://AITC.orst.edu>.

Free-Loan Reference Library

Our Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) free-loan reference library is now on-line for your convenience. Visit our recently updated and expanded Oregon AIRC Web site at <http://aitc.orst.edu>. Materials are divided into several topic areas: Animals, Conservation & Natural Resources, Food & Nutrition, General Agriculture, Plants, and State Resources. The materials are available for your use with the only cost being return mailing. The materials list the grade level with a short description of the curriculum, and subject area.

SAI Lesson Plans Available

Lesson plans written by Oregon teachers are available for you to download. Teachers that attended the Summer Ag Institute (SAI) wrote these lessons. There are currently nine lessons available in PDF format for teachers in grades 1-8.

New Curriculum in Development

In partnership with Extension 4-H and Agriculture Education at Oregon State University, AIRC is developing curriculum for grades 4-5 on Oregon commodities and natural resources. The lesson plans are being written to Oregon's benchmark standards. The lessons include various Oregon products such as: nursery, beef, grass seed, and dairy, and involve topics such as nutrition, environmental stewardship, and economics, to name a few. If you are interested in pilot testing the lessons, please contact Tami at (541) 737-8629.

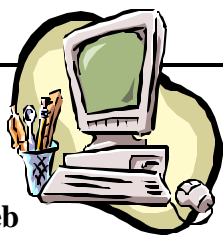
Web Calendar Contest

Next fall we will be adding a calendar to our Web site that features student artwork. The student's name, grade level, teacher, and school will all be listed. Below the picture, will be a calendar with agricultural facts that correlate to the specific month. For example, February in National Cherry Month and National Agriculture Week is during March. Each month the student's picture needs to carry the theme of *Oregon Agriculture*. The pictures need to be submitted on white, 8.5 X 11 paper, by **May 15th**. Judging will be completed over the summer and the calendar will feature student's artwork next fall. See the inside of this newsletter and the Web site for further details.

Ambassador Program

AIRC is building an Ambassador Program. We would like to have Ambassadors in schools around Oregon. You can help us review curriculum and show others how to use the AIRC materials. Information will be sent out this winter that further describes the program and responsibilities of AIRC and the Ambassador. Contact us for more information.

**Visit Our Web Site to Order Your
Materials for National Ag Day,
March 20, 2001
<http://aitc.orst.edu>**



Making the Connection

Ag in the Classroom on the Web

Free Lesson Plans for K-3, 4-6, 6-8, and 9-12

www.agclassroom.org/teachers/lessplan.htm

Visit this site for a variety of geography lessons for students of all ages. They will use maps to learn where agricultural products used to produce various snacks are grown; and older students will map federal land holdings and discuss acceptable uses for public land.

Worm Web site - Herman the Worm

<http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/worms/index.html>

Learn more about worm facts, and how to make your own worm bin.

Science for Kids -Science Fair Ideas

www.ars.usda.gov/is/kids/fair/story.htm

This site offers many new science fair project ideas. Agriculture fits into biology, botany, chemistry, environmental sciences, and nutrition. This site is geared for student's ages 8-13. This site also includes a general "how to do a science project" section. It explains the basic steps of a research project.

Science for Kids in Spanish - Science Fair Ideas

www.ars.usda.gov/is/espanol/kids

The same information is also available in Spanish. Science fair project ideas can be reached on the Ciencia Para Ninos page.

John Deere Storybook for Little Folks

www.deere.com/deerecom/_kids/Johnny+Tractor+Storybook/default.htm

Your students will enjoy this online storybook!

Moo Milk

www.moomilk.com

Explore the Story of Milk, try great new recipes using dairy products, test your cow knowledge, and learn amazing facts about cows and the dairy industry.

Teach Free

www.teachfree.com

High-quality, peer-reviewed kits for preK-12!

Ag Calendar

January 2001

- ◆ National Soup Month
What Oregon grown products would mix together to make a tasty soup?
- ◆ National Hot Tea Month
The U.S. has one tea plantation - in Charleston, S.C.! For more facts on tea: www.enteract.com
- ◆ National Oatmeal Day, 1/2
- ◆ National Rice Day, 1/23
- ◆ National Popcorn Day, 1/26
www.popcorn.org/mpindex.htm

February 2001

- ◆ National Cherry Month
www.cherrymkt.org
- ◆ National Potato Lover's Month
- ◆ National Meat Month
- ◆ National Grapefruit Month
- ◆ Great American Pie Month
- ◆ National Pancake Week 2/18-24
Serve breakfast in class! Start with eggs, wheat, butter; end with fruit, nuts, yogurt, bacon, berry syrup - its all ag!
- ◆ World Cabbage Day, 2/17

March 2001

- ◆ National Pizza Month
What goes into a pizza? It's all from agriculture! Check out the Pizza Facts in the Kids Corral at www.pizzafarm.net.
- ◆ National Peanut Month
- ◆ National Frozen Food Month
- ◆ National Nutrition Month
- ◆ National Noodle Month
- ◆ National Ag Week 3/18-24
Ag day: 3/20. Share the spirit and message of agriculture! Ag Council of America: www.agday.org
- ◆ National Pecan Day, 3/25
Anniversary of the day in 1775 when George Washington planted at Mt. Vernon pecan trees given to him by Thomas Jefferson
- ◆ National School Breakfast Week, 3/5-9
Ask your food service to feature a locally produced food, and then invite a farmer to breakfast! www.asfa.org/kidzone



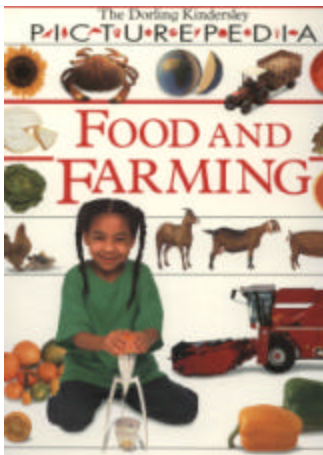
NEW Resources & Information

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

Educational Units:

Food and Farming

Grades Preschool-5 (Book)



Explains the world of food and farming with vivid pictures and clear concise text. The book covers such topics as wheat, citrus fruits, pigs, underground vegetables, and cocoa. Beginning readers will point and ask questions about the attention grabbing pictures and follow the kids through the pages as

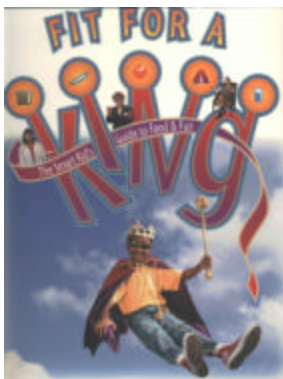
they demonstrate experiments. With interest stimulated by the photography, older children plunge into the text.

Free loan from Oregon AITC.

Fit for a King

Grades 2-6 (Video Kit)

This video fairytale format is both entertaining and educational, communicating the "variety, balance,



and moderation" message in ways that are relevant to the lifestyles of today's young people. This kit includes a video, leader guide, nine reproducible activity sheets, ten tips to healthy eating and physical activity and a food guide pyramid poster. Available **Free** from the **Oregon Beef Council**.

Contact Schelli Blaha at (503) 274-BEEF for an order form and information on other resources.

Water heroes!

Grades 4-7 (Video and Educator's Guide)

Protecting our water resources takes more than just hard work; it takes water heroes. Learn about non-point source pollution and how it affects our

groundwater. Geology and geography come to life in a trip to Hidden River Cave and a miniature watershed experiment. Visit streams with some young water heroes and learn what you can do to protect this precious resource. **Free loan** from AITC, **provided by Oregon 4-H Youth Development**.



Chosen Fields

**Exploring Careers in Agriculture
Grades 4-10 (Video & CD)**

This video helps students get a taste of careers in agriculture. It highlights careers in agricultural engineering, animal behavior, animal nutrition, and landscape design. It also includes a CD-Rom with 15 classroom lessons to explore careers in agriculture. **Free loan** from Oregon AITC or order for \$15 from Illinois AITC at (309) 557-3334.



Yes! I would like to receive more information about:

- Pilot Testing Lessons on Oregon Commodities and Natural Resources
- Reviewing Curriculum
- Becoming an Ambassador
- Teacher-Training Workshops
- Add me to the Newsletter Mailing List

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail to:

Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation

105 Ballard Extension Hall

Corvallis, OR 97331



**Oregon Agriculture in the
Classroom Foundation
105 Ballard Extension Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-3608**