



Cream of the Crop

A harvest of ideas for educators

September 2017



California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Fantastic Ag Fact:

California has upwards of 46,000 acres of prune plum trees!



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The "What's Growin' On?" Writing Team toured the West Sacramento Port to prepare to write the next edition... focusing on transportation!



LearnAboutAg®

Taste and Teach Application Now Open! Last Chance - Closes TONIGHT!

Taste and Teach



Application
now open!

Receive a \$100 gift
and free resources!

Raley's. BEL AIR. NOB HILL. FOODS.



*Program available only to teachers/schools in select counties.

Raley's and the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom are offering an opportunity for you to Taste and Teach! 250 teachers will receive a \$100 gift card to Raley's, Bel Air and Nob Hill grocery stores to purchase featured California-grown commodities (fruits, vegetables and nuts!) each month starting September 2017. Available to teachers in select counties.

Application closes September 2!

 Teacher Feature

Tina Hansen McEnroe, M.A., Hon. L.H.D.

Proprietor & Teacher
Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse
Buelton, CA
tinahansenmcenroe@gmail.com



Tina's Background

Tina grew up in a California farming family that first settled in the Salinas Valley in the mid 1800's. It was these roots that showed her the value and importance of agriculture.

As a fourth generation farmer, it was natural for Tina to infuse agriculture into the curriculum she developed and utilized. Some of her notable accomplishments in the classroom include having curriculum featured by local and state Ag in the Classroom programs, directing a parent program that taught English and nutrition to Spanish-speaking farm workers, and spearheading student engagement in the school's garden. In addition to having a regional "*Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest" winner in 2004, Tina was the 2005 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Outstanding Educator. Here are a few words from Tina about her recent projects:

Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse

My husband Paul and I found, moved, restored, and share with our community the 1869 Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse, a Santa Barbara County Building of Historic Merit and a reminder of a bygone era. I have developed a unique, hands-on curriculum which takes period-costumed children back in time to the late nineteenth century where they learn lessons using slate boards and McGuffey Readers.

My first published children's books, *Grass Is Greener*, set at the schoolhouse and based on a true story featuring cattle and beef education, will be available for sale on Amazon this November. Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse also serves as the setting where a new vineyard has been planted as a water conservation measure, which inspired Through the Grapevine curriculum.

Through the Grapevine Curriculum

Last year, my friend Courtney Gillespie and I co-authored and collaborated on Through the Grapevine, which I teach to students at the schoolhouse. The lessons have been a success in that they are hands-on, integrate well into many subject areas, and are simple for teachers to prep for and use. The students particularly love the taste tests, discovering ladybug treasures under the grape leaves, and the "hidden" grapes in scavenger hunts.

Final Thoughts

It has been said that education should not be filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire. At the John Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, commemorating my great-grandfather's original Salinas Valley farm is an etching which reads:

"TINA HANSEN MCENROE
PRESERVING and TEACHING AGRICULTURE"

This is my legacy.

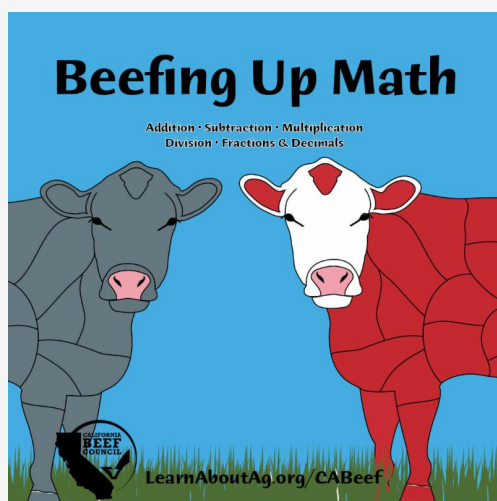
Download Through the Grapevine and learn about the Pleasant Valley Schoolhouse at: pleasantvalleyschoolhouse.com

Read Tina's full biography and comments [here!](#)



Featured Resource

New Resource: Beefing Up Math



The "Beefing Up Math" Project, sponsored by the California Beef Council, includes five new math worksheets for students in grades 1 to 6. Students will solve math facts for addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and decimals. Once students complete the math facts, they color the beef mural according to the key. The back side of the worksheet includes word problems related to cattle ranching, and measurement problems that require the "Beef Up Your Math" ruler. All worksheets are aligned to current California Education Standards.

Great for grades 1-6

[Order your classroom sets online!](#)



Grant Feature

Literacy for Life Grants

Want to take your class on an ag field trip, purchase a class set of ag books, or host an ag education day? Here is your



California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

chance! Grant possibilities are limitless; be creative and innovative! Literacy for Life grants are designed to initiate new projects or expand existing ones that promote agricultural literacy. Teachers are eligible to apply for these \$500 grants.

Deadline: October 1, 2017
[Apply Online!](#)

CHS Classroom Grants



The CHS Foundation and National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization are partnering again this school year to offer CHS Classroom Grants. Teachers of grades K-12 who have agriculture projects they would like to fund to help them teach reading, writing, math, science, social studies and more are eligible to apply. Fifteen \$500 grants will be awarded.

Deadline: September 15, 2017
[Apply Online!](#)

See [other grant opportunities](#) at LearnAboutAg.org.

More Ways to LearnAboutAg®

Imagine this... Story Writing Contest

California students in grades 3-8 creatively explore where their food and fiber comes from by writing narrative stories. The winning stories from each grade are illustrated by high school art students and published in our annual story book, "*Imagine this... Stories Inspired by Agriculture*".

Annual deadline: November 1. Find out more [here!](#)

Want to go to Maine next summer?

Do you have a knack for using agriculture and food-related concepts to teach reading, writing, nutrition, social studies, STEM subjects and more? Would you like to visit Maine next summer? National Agriculture in the Classroom has the answer for you. Submit a workshop proposal for next year's national conference 'Agriculture for ME: On Land & Sea' to be held June 27-29, 2018 in Portland, Maine. Workshop proposals are due by Oct. 6, 2017. Find out more by visiting naitconference.usu.edu/Presenters

Budding Artist Photography Contest

The California Farm Bureau Federation Photo Contest is open to any amateur photographer who is a county Farm Bureau Member's child. Applicants under

13 years old are invited to submit entries. Budding Artist entrants will receive a copy of "*Imagine this... Stories Inspired By Agriculture*" book developed by California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. Find more information [here!](#)

Community Events

For Educators

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
<p>Life Lab Workshops Life Lab has trained tens of thousands of educators across the nation! Sign up today for one of their many workshops this summer and fall!</p>	Santa Cruz, CA	Summer & Fall 2017
<p>Growing Edible Education Symposium Join us as we implement, promote, and support farm-to-school activities in our community. Gain the knowledge, skills, connections, and confidence to say, "YES WE CAN." Graduate university credit available. Registration coming soon.</p>	San Luis Obispo, CA	October 6-7, 2017
<p>San Diego County Teacher Resource Fair Held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds from 4pm to 6pm. Make learning come alive in your garden and classroom by incorporating lessons about agriculture. Garden-based and ag-based learning can inspire the next generation of farmers, veterinarians, and chefs. Meet local farmers and collect great resources!</p>	Del Mar, CA	October 12, 2017

For Youth

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
<p>Tahoe Farm Day Third grade classes are invited to a day of fun, hands-on experience, and agricultural lessons. Interactive displays include subjects like nutrition, land stewardship, and more!</p>	South Lake Tahoe, CA	September 19, 2017
<p>Fertilizer & Sustainability Media Contest <i>The Fertilizer Is At the Root of It</i> Contest is a creative way to showcase fertilizer and sustainability. Science and Agriculture classes grades 7-12 are invited to create a video or poster on how sustainability is implemented in your school. Find out more information here!</p>	Nationwide	September 22, 2017
<p>AgVentures! Learning Center Tours of the Learning Center are available year-round for elementary school students. Cost is \$3 per student.</p>	Tulare, CA	(Year-Round)



**Swing To Link
Agriculture and Education
September 13 - Poppy Hills**



We're bringing together long-time supporters and new friends of Ag in the Classroom for a Golf Tournament at Poppy Hills golf course in Pebble Beach. Tee off with us on Wednesday, September 13, as we aim to provide more students and teachers with opportunities to LearnAboutAg!

[Register Online!](#)



Show Your Support for Agricultural Literacy

Help us continue providing programs and materials that create an awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students. Make a one-time or recurring [donation](#).

Stay Connected! @LearnAboutAg



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