

Fantastic Ag Fact:



The pod color of snap beans can be green, golden, purple/red, or streaked, but the beans inside the pod are always green.

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Suzanne Squires, CFAITC's 2019
Outstanding Educator of the Year,
received a 2020 National Excellence
in Teaching about Agriculture
Award! Suzanne teaches at Los
Olivos Elementary School in Santa
Barbara County! Congratulations on
your achievement!



Celebrating National Agriculture Week

March 27, 2020 - Clarksburg, CA

We are excited to host our Northern California special event at Silt Wine Company in Clarksburg. Silt Wine Company was honored in 2019 by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce with the 2019 Small Business of the Year Award. The venue is situated on the grounds of an estate vineyard with beautifully manicured gardens in a reclaimed historic barn with rustic charm. Mingle with your friends and get to know new ones while enjoying live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres and hosted wine and beer.

Register Online Today





Registration is Open - Join Us!

2020 CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference September 24-26, 2020 Ventura, CA

Register now to attend the 2020 CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference! Come and learn about the importance of educating our youth about food and fiber through all subject areas. The program at a glance and hotel accommodation information is now available!



Learn More about the Conference!

Looking for more ways to be involved?

Present a Workshop

Be an Exhibitor

Host a 'Taste of California' Dinner





Florencia Rivera

Grade taught: Third Grade

School: McKinley Elementary School

County: San Joaquin

1. How and when did you first learn of Ag in the Classroom?

Ag in the Classroom has been a community partner who supports educators who wish to incorporate or integrate agriculture into their classrooms. I have been hooked on Ag in the Classroom since I started teaching third grade beginning in the 90's. Agriculture is an integral part of the Stockton community and San Joaquin county. With a majority of our students' families having strong farming backgrounds agricultural topics fit well into my classroom. I have had the pleasure of attending trainings offered by San Joaquin County Ag in the Classroom and Ag in the Classroom which have deeply impacted my passion for agriculture.



2. How long have you been teaching students about agriculture? I began teaching agriculture and nutrition with my first batch of third grade students had the opportunity to attend an AgVenture field trip to learn more about the agricultural crops that are grown in San Joaquin County. That was way back in the '90s and my students still continue to go each year. California Dairy Council also provides resources to schools to teach Healthy Choices.

3. What is your favorite AITC program/resource/event and why? My favorite event is the California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. I have attended at least the last two conferences and I consider them the best agricultural experience ever! We teachers learn from the experts, go to amazing field trips, and go back to our classrooms with bags full of resources to support our instruction. Another favorite is the taste tests where students learn about crops grown in California and the experience of observing and trying the fruits and

vegetables. Students also learn about the nutritional benefits from consuming these commodities. Taste tests have the most impact for my students because they are able to study the crop in depth and in the process develop a liking for the commodity that they have not tried before, developing lifelong healthy habits.

4. Describe any agriculture-based projects you have been involved in lately.

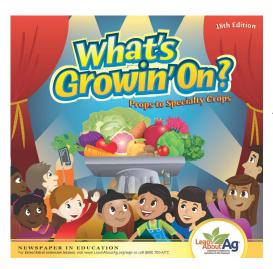
Most recently, we participated in the monthly Pick-a-Peck program to learn more about California-grown commodities and nutrition. This project provided opportunities for students to learn and try different fruits, nuts, and vegetables that are locally grown while learning the healthy benefits from them. In January this year, we attended the AgVenture Field Trip, held in Stockton, to learn more and reinforce their knowledge of agriculture.

5. Do you have any advice for other teachers on implementing agriculture into the classroom?

Integrating Agriculture in the Classroom does not take a lot of effort and preparation on the teacher's part. It is complementary to what the students are already learning in school. It can be integrated in English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, and all other subject areas. It is a lot of fun and can spark a lot of interest and enthusiasm from the students. After all, agriculture has a very visible presence in California because it is a major industry in our state. It just makes sense to integrate agriculture in our instruction. Getting resources is not a concern at all. Agriculture in the Classroom has compiled all helpful resources that you need to teach agriculture. Agriculture in the Classroom has very knowledgeable and supportive staff who can attend to your agricultural queries.



What's Growin' On? Props to Specialty Crops Now Available!



18th Edition NOW available!

In this edition of *What's Growin' On?*we explore the nutritious foods
California has to offer!

Teachers:

You can participate in the student evaluation of What's Growin' On? if you teach 3rd-8th grade! We are offering a \$150 stipend to the first 15 qualified educators.

Apply here!

Request a classroom set (up to 50) of this resource to be mailed directly to you, FOR FREE! Full of activities, engaging text, and already aligned to standards, this resources will be a great addition your classroom!

Request This Resource Today!



ecoSolution Grants



The ecoSolution Grants are available to support youth-led environmental projects.
Grants for \$500 - \$2,500 support the purchase of materials and expenses related to implement the project.

Applications open March 15, 2020 Applications are due July 15, 2020

Click here for more information!



California Farm to School Conference

The California Farm to School Conference will take place March 26-27 in San Diego, California. The two-day conference will focus on empathy and collaboration, with an emphasis on establishing "complete" farm to school programs that coordinate student voice, local food procurement, education in classrooms and cafeterias, and experiential learning in school gardens, agriculture and culinary programs, farm tours, and other related activities. Find out more <a href="https://example.com/herel/en/life-school-schoo

National Farm to Cafeteria Conference

The 10th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference will be help April 21-23, 2020 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This conference, hosted by the National Farm to School Network, is the only national gathering of Farm to Cafeteria stakeholders from throughout the country. Find out more here!

Want to go to Salt Lake City next summer?

Mark your calendar for June 23-26, 2020. Attend the 2020 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Surround yourselves with educators passionate about incorporating agriculture into their classrooms! Find out more **here!**

On the Farm STEM Event

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's On the Farm STEM event will be held July 7-10 in Nashville, TN. This event is designed for STEM educators who want to learn more about NGSS curriculum. Attendees will hear from beef farmers and ranchers, researchers, nutritionists and veterinarians through tours and visits. Apply today to attend! Applications close March 6, 2020. Find out more here!



For Educators

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
Life Lab Workshops Life Lab has trained tens of thousands of educators across the nation! Sign up today for one of their many workshops, spring through summer!	Santa Cruz, CA	Upcoming Workshops: • March 6 • March 19-20 • April 3 • April 16-17 • July 23-24 • September 11 • September 24-25 • October 24
Powerhouse Science Center For over 65 years, Powerhouse Science Center has been dedicated to partnering with educators across Northern California. Visit the center to try the handson labs, workshops and programs that are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards and focus on providing opportunities for mastering disciplinary core ideas (DCIs) and Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs).	Sacramento, CA	Year-Round (including summer)

For Youth

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
Solano County Youth Ag Day Youth Ag Day is a collaborative effort of the Solano County Fair Association and agricultural related businesses, organizations, farmers, ranchers and other individuals to encourage Solano County third graders to experience agriculture firsthand. This fun and educational event is free to all 3 rd grade classes in Solano County and features a wide variety of hands-on rotational learning stations and displays. Activities are designed to give children the opportunity to learn about food and fiber production from new perspectives, with a particular emphasis on the agricultural wealth of Solano County.	Vallejo, CA	March 17, 2020

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San Benito County Farm Day Farm Day is organized for the sole purpose of increasing awareness of the positive contributions that agriculture makes to our local community and economy. All 3rd graders countywide are invited to attend and spend the morning immersed in agriculture. Each Farm Day is larger than the last. For reservations contact San Benito County Farm Bureau.	Tres Pinos, CA	March 17, 2020
Kings County Farm Day A collaborative effort on the part of Kings County Farm Bureau, the Kings County Office of Education and the Kings Fair, Farm Day strives to teach the next generation of consumers about the positive contributions farming makes to the community and the local economy. For more information contact Kings County Farm Bureau.	Hanford, CA	March 19, 2020
California State Fair Farm and Forest Tours Get an Outdoor Classroom Experience with K-6th Grade Farm & Forest Tours at the California State Fair Farm. Bring your students to a living classroom, get outside, tour our farm, eat fresh food, learn about worms and more! See actual crops including a functioning greenhouse on the 3.5-acre working farm. Reservations now open!	Sacramento, CA	April 7 - May 7, 2020
Yolo County Farm Bureau Farm Connection Day Yolo County students in grades K-6 are invited to the Yolo County Fairgrounds to spend their day learning about and experiencing agriculture from the industry's experts!	Woodland, CA	May 1, 2020
El Dorado County-Placerville Farm Day Farm Days are fun, hands-on field trips where lessons of agriculture and its role in our everyday lives, our county, and its economy are taught in the context of local farms, ranches, forests, and watersheds. Registration is available to all 3rd grade classes in El Dorado County. Students and teachers experience the sights, sounds, smells and feels of agriculture at Farm Day. Throughout the day, students and their teachers rotate to 6-8 different learning stations to learn about farms, natural resources, food, nutrition and animals.	Placerville, CA	May 5, 2020
Teachers' Ag Seminar Discover different ways to bring agriculture into your classroom by learning hands-on experiences from local farmers and ranchers. The seminar will include presentations, tours, activies and free resources for your classroom. REgistration is \$60 before June 1 and \$75 afterwards. Contact kernag ed@yahoo.com for a registration form.	Bakersfield, CA	July 13-15, 2020
McKellar Farms McKellar Family Farms is located in the heart of the world's most productive agricultural region California's Central Valley. Farmers around here feed the world. Literally! We can't wait to take you on a behind-thescenes tour of our citrus farm. Come and let your senses run wild as you see, taste, touch, feel and smell some of California's juiciest gems!	Ivanhoe, CA	Fall and Spring
Hilmar Cheese Company School and Youth Tours Join us for the most fun and educational field trip in the Central Valley! Free for all public, private and home schools associated with a school district. Organized and led by trained tour guides, safe and fully accessible. All students receive free cheese samples, a hairnet, Daisy's Dairy "ABCs" and a souvenir pencil.	Hilmar, CA	Year-Round

AgVentures! Learning Center	Tulare, CA	Year-Round
Tours of the Learning Center are available year-round for		
elementary school students. Cost is \$3 per student.		

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 <u>donation</u> today!

Stay Connected! @LearnAboutAg

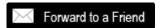












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