



Cream of the Crop

A harvest of ideas for educators

September 2020



California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Fantastic Ag Fact:



Scientifically, tomatoes are considered a fruit. However, the Supreme Court declared them a vegetable because of the way in which people commonly eat them.

In this issue...

- [LearnAboutAg® - Join us for a Virtual AgVentura!](#)
- [LearnAboutAg® - Budding Artist Photo Contest](#)
- [Teacher Feature](#)
- [Featured Resource](#)
- [Grant Feature](#)
- [More Ways to LearnAboutAg®](#)
- [Community Events](#)
- [Support LearnAboutAg®](#)



Applications for the Taste and Teach Grant have been extended! 350 selected teachers will receive a \$100 gift card to Raley's, Bel Air and Nob Hill or Stater Bros. grocery stores to purchase featured California-grown commodities (fruits, vegetables and nuts!) each month beginning in September.

[Apply Today!](#)



LearnAboutAg

Join us for a Virtual AgVentura!

September 25-26, 2020

Registration: FREE!

Our virtual conference is right around the corner! The first 200 registrants will receive a registration bag full of snacks, resources, and swag to make agriculture come alive for your students!

From bitmojis to victory gardens to nutrition we are so excited to host this year's conference. We will have a live cooking demo at Mulvaney's B&L and hear from CDFA

Secretary Karen Ross, SEEAG, Dairy Council of California, and so many other dynamic speakers.

We will explore Limoneira Company's Lemon Packinghouse and Houweling's green house tomatoes. You won't want to miss this opportunity to come together **virtually** to LearnAboutAg® while focusing on distance learning.



[Learn More about the Conference and Register Today!](#)



Budding Artist Photo Contest

Ag in the Classroom partners with the California Farm Bureau to host the Budding Artists division of their annual photo contest. Photographers 14 years old and younger (whose parents are a California Farm Bureau members) can

compete to earn prizes and state-wide recognition for their work. The annual deadline is September 30.

Prizes include:

- One First Place winner - \$250
- One Second Place winner - \$100
- All participants will receive a copy of the *Imagine this... Stories Inspired by Agriculture* Book

[Learn more and apply online or via mail!](#)



2019 Budding Artist First Place Winner - Dottie Davis



Ramsey Harvey

Grades taught: K-6

Garden and Nutrition

School: Greenville

Elementary School

County: Plumas County

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

Last spring my principal mentioned that Agriculture in the Classroom might be a great resource for education materials. I then ordered resources and added Ag in the Classroom to my approach.

2. How long have you been teaching students about agriculture?

I started teaching garden and nutrition in 2017.

3. What is your favorite AITC program/resource/event and why?



I really love the pollinator fact sheet and all the teaching resources online. I appreciate access to the online resources because it is so easy to print/copy a fact sheet and add it to our worksheets and journaling activities.

4. Describe an agriculture-based project you have been involved in lately.

When schools closed in the spring, our garden activities were off limits. We received permission to send plants home with the school lunch program that delivered meals to kids. We dropped off baby plants including squash, zucchini, kale, cucumbers, pumpkins, and watermelons with their school lunch over the next month. We also sent home packets of flower seeds. Gardening at home is a hands-on way to #LearnAboutAg@Home!

5. Do you have any advice for other teachers on how to implement agriculture into their classrooms?

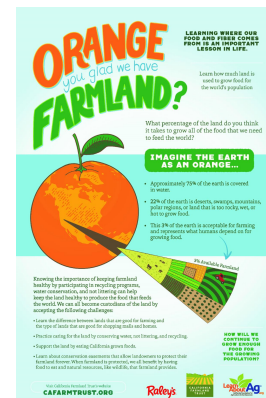
Use an ecologic and holistic approach, your human connection to land and food is meaningful.



Orange You Glad We Have Farmland? Poster and Lesson Plan

Did you know that California produces more than 1/3 of the country's vegetables and 2/3 of the country's fruits and nuts? Learn more about the importance of conserving California farmland using our new Orange You Glad We Have Farmland? educational poster with a lesson plan included for grades 3-5.

[**Download your free copy today!**](#)



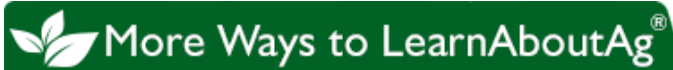
CHS Foundation Classroom Grants

CHS Foundation provides \$500 grants each year to Pre-K through 12th teachers who have classroom projects that

use agriculture to teach reading, writing, math, science, social studies, and more. Eligible projects include classroom and schoolyard gardens, embryology projects, aquaculture projects, and more. Applications are due September 30, 2020!



[Learn more and apply here!](#)



Literacy for Life Grants

Sponsored by the Oreggia Family Foundation, Literacy for Life grants are designed to help initiate new projects or expand existing ones that promote agricultural literacy. Grants of up to \$500 are provided to California K-12 educators to support the integration of agriculture into regular classroom instruction.

Applications are due October 1, 2020.



[Visit our website for more information and to apply.](#)

For Educators

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
<u>School Garden Network Webinars</u> Join the school garden support organization for their best practices webinar series that focus on bridging the gap between distance learning and your school garden.	Virtual	Upcoming Workshops: Sept. 9 Sept. 16 Sept. 23 Spet. 30
<u>California Science Education Conference</u> This conference will offer more than 100 professional development workshop sessions, exhibits, classroom resources, exciting keynote speakers and more.	Virtual	Oct. 16-18, 2020
<u>AgExplorer's Virtual Field Trips</u> National FFA and Discovery Education have teamed up to create career resources to help explore careers within agriculture. Utilize these virtual field trips to have your students gain a firsthand account of the diverse career opportunities within the agricultural industry.	Virtual	On-going
<u>Sacramento County Farm Bureau Virtual Tours</u> Sacramento County Farm Bureau has launched a new Virtual Farm Tour series! Each week, different agricultural operations are explored to learn more about Sacramento County agriculture.	Virtual	On-going

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 [donation](#) today!

Stay Connected! @LearnAboutAg



