

# CREAM OF THE CROP

## A Harvest of Ideas for Educators

### FANTASTIC FACT:

Dairy is the number one agriculture commodity in California.



*Join us in Orange County!*







## READY, SET, REGISTER!

Costa Mesa here we come.

Join us in Orange County to explore new ways to bring agriculture into your classroom at the 37th Annual Ag in the Classroom Conference.

Our conference, designed for PreK-12 educators, administrators, and volunteers, is an exciting opportunity to collaborate with fellow educators who share your passion for agriculture and learn about incorporating food and fiber into all curricular areas.

### Registration Cost

- Early Bell Registration Price (May 14 - June 30): \$345
- Early Bird Registration Price (July 1 - August 16): \$365
- Last Chance Registration: (August 17 - September 13): \$385

[REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE](#)



Start your summer by raising a (milk) glass and explore exciting new resources!

We're thrilled to announce the addition of three brand-new dairy units, crafted in collaboration with the Dairy Council of California, to our Teachers Pay Teachers Store! But here's the scoop: while they're in our store, they're still absolutely FREE.

Why wait? Dive into these fantastic resources to celebrate National Dairy Month or bookmark the link for your summer curriculum planning.

These engaging lessons feature:

- Interactive videos
- Fun and delicious tasting plans
- Creative extension ideas that integrate seamlessly with Math, ELA, and Science

Don't miss out on these udderly amazing units that are perfect for bringing the world of dairy to life in your classroom!

DAIRY RESOURCES



Learn more at: [HealthyEating.org/DairyMonth](https://HealthyEating.org/DairyMonth)







# Watch this



# Win that?



## WE NEED YOU!

How do you teach the littlest of learners about California agriculture? You show them!

To illustrate that farming is much more than "Old McDonald Had a Farm" we produced a video highlighting modern agricultural production.

We need teachers to review our short (we're talking under 3 minutes) video to determine this new resource's impact on students' agricultural literacy.

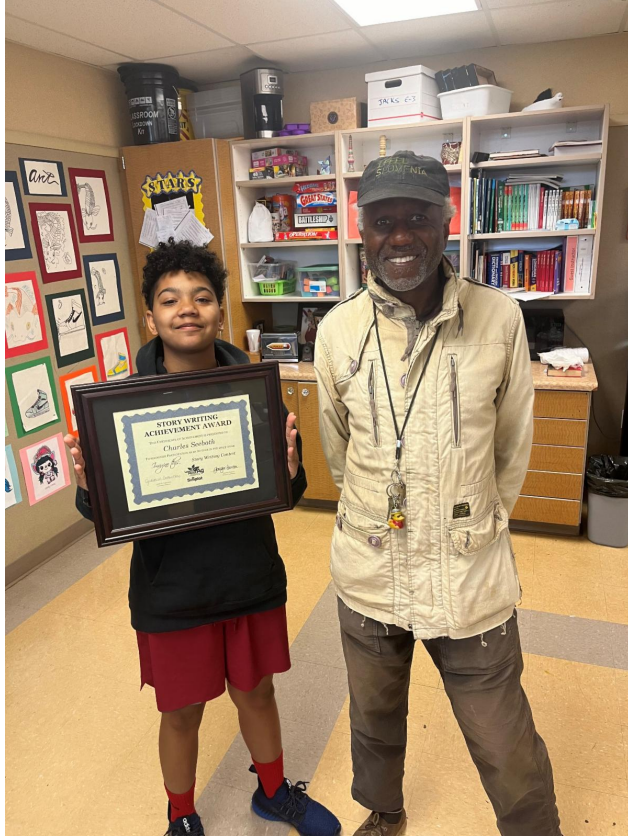
Bonus! All reviewers will be entered into a drawing to win our ever-popular Ag in the Classroom tumbler.

[REVIEW LIFE ON THE FARM VIDEO](#)



Teacher Feature

ALEX AYULI



### Let's start with the basics: What is your favorite California commodity?

My favorite California food commodity is blueberries. I eat blueberries every morning (in season or out of season, fresh or frozen!) I particularly love the freshly picked blueberries from our school garden in June.

### How and when did you first learn about Ag in the Classroom?

I first learned about Ag in the Classroom, last year from Kevin Jordan our school's chief horticultural teacher, and Ag in the Classroom's teacher of the year for 2024!

### How long have you been teaching students about agriculture?

I have taught students for about 10 years, specifically about agriculture over the past two years, as part of our school's horticultural CTE program. However, my interest in growing plants for pleasure and food is lifelong.

### What is your favorite AITC program, resource, or event, and why?

I loved last year's Annual Ag in the Classroom Conference. It was my first and I was blown away by just about everything, the field trips to local farms and food processing plants, the BBQ and dining events, and the wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm at the conference lecture sessions. More please!

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

Bring your passion into the classroom, get students and staff excited, and start a school or classroom garden if you don't already have one. Mentor, mentor, mentor. Encourage, encourage, encourage.

### Any ag-ha moments in your classroom? Where agriculture came alive for your students?

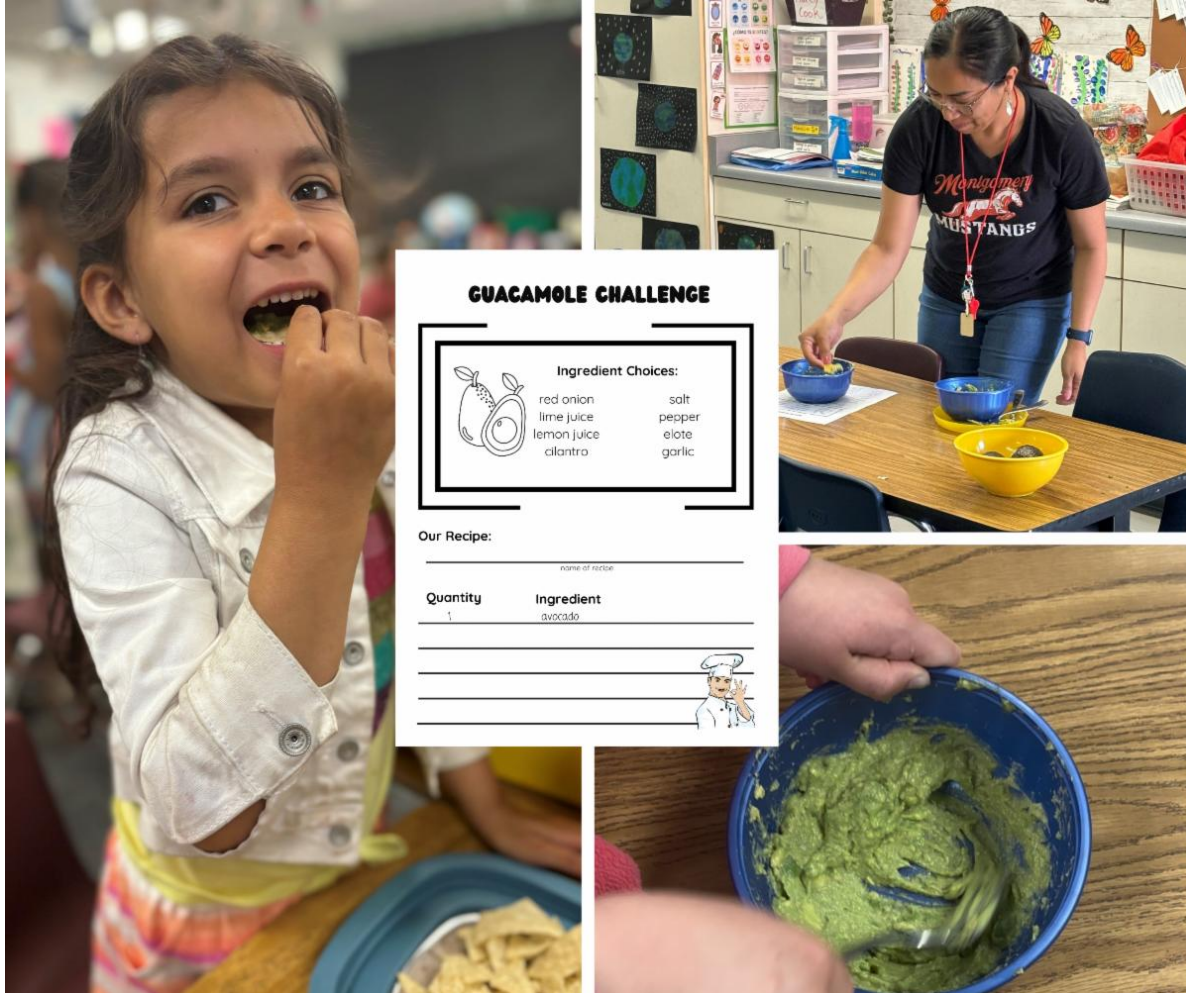
Every harvest time, we all get to taste the fruit of our labors! Seeing our student's faces light up when they bite into that fresh apricot, cherry tomato, or strawberry, is worth all the hard work.

BE OR NOMINATE A TEACHER FEATURE: EMAIL US HERE!



Featured Resource





**GUACAMOLE CHALLENGE**



**Ingredient Choices:**

red onion	salt
lime juice	pepper
lemon juice	elote
cilantro	garlic

**Our Recipe:**

\_\_\_\_\_

name of recipe

Quantity	Ingredient
1	avocado



## GOT GUACAMOLE?

Who knew? June is also California avocado month.

Learn more about this phenomenal fruit (yes, fruit) by visiting [California Avocados](#) and by downloading our [Avocado Fact and Activity Sheet](#).

Need more avocado inspiration? Start summer with a guacamole challenge, where students create their own guacamole recipe. See the activity in action on our [Instagram page](#) and [download the Guacamole Challenge Activity Sheet here](#).

AVOCADO ACTIVITY



Grant Feature

## SPROUTING SCHOOL GARDENS GRANT

Interested in creating or expanding your school garden?

The Sprouting School Gardens Grant is open.



Grants range in size from \$5,000 to \$10,000 and support school garden program operations, program supplies, and educator stipends that help school gardens thrive.

Eligible applicants include schools or 501(c)(3) nonprofits running programs on school campuses in communities where Sprouts Farmers Market has stores.

**Application deadline:  
June 30, 2024**

**LEARN MORE AND APPLY**



**LearnAboutAg®**



## I SPY SWAG!

We're loving this lunch tote, but let's hear from you.

What type of Ag in the Classroom products would you like to see at annual conference? Themed stickers (for water bottles and laptops), t-shirts, keychains, and notepads? Pencils or pens?

You tell us. Give us the inside scoop by taking the quick (we promise!) survey [HERE!](#)



**Community Events**

[National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference](#)

June 24-27

Salt Lake City, Utah

The 2024 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference is a professional development event for teachers Pre-K through 12th grade.

Register [HERE.](#)

[California Agriculture in the Classroom  
Conference](#)

September 27-29  
Costa Mesa, CA

Join us for the 2024 California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. For teachers Pre-K through 12th grade.

Register [HERE.](#)

[Forestry Institute for Teachers](#)

Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) is an immersive week-long Professional Learning Program providing interdisciplinary, hands-on experiences for California Educators.

Each year, FIT brings together formal and nonformal educators from across California to learn about current forestry issues and how they influence our everyday lives.

2024 Sessions now open for registration. More information [HERE.](#)

[FREE Mobile Dairy Classroom Assembly](#)

Bring agriculture to life with the Dairy Council's FREE Mobile Dairy Classroom Assembly. Find more information [HERE.](#)

[Soybean Science Challenge](#)

Eleven Ag Pathway video mini-lessons for science classrooms are available through the University of Arkansas Extension Program. Get more information [HERE.](#)



**Show Your Support for Agricultural Literacy**

Help us continue providing FREE programs and materials that create an awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students.

**MAKE A DONATION  
TODAY!**

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