

CREAM OF THE CROP

A Harvest of Ideas for Educators

FANTASTIC FACT:

Gold miners were the first people to commercially farm cling peaches in California.



ORANGE COUNTY AWAITS

September 27-29, 2024

The annual Ag in the Classroom Conference aimed at PreK-12 educators, administrators, and volunteers is an exciting opportunity to collaborate with fellow educators and learn about incorporating food and fiber into all curricular areas.

Join us to learn new and exciting ways to bring agriculture into your classroom.

"I loved last year's Ag in the Classroom Conference."

It was my first and I was blown away by just about everything!"

- Sacramento Middle School teacher

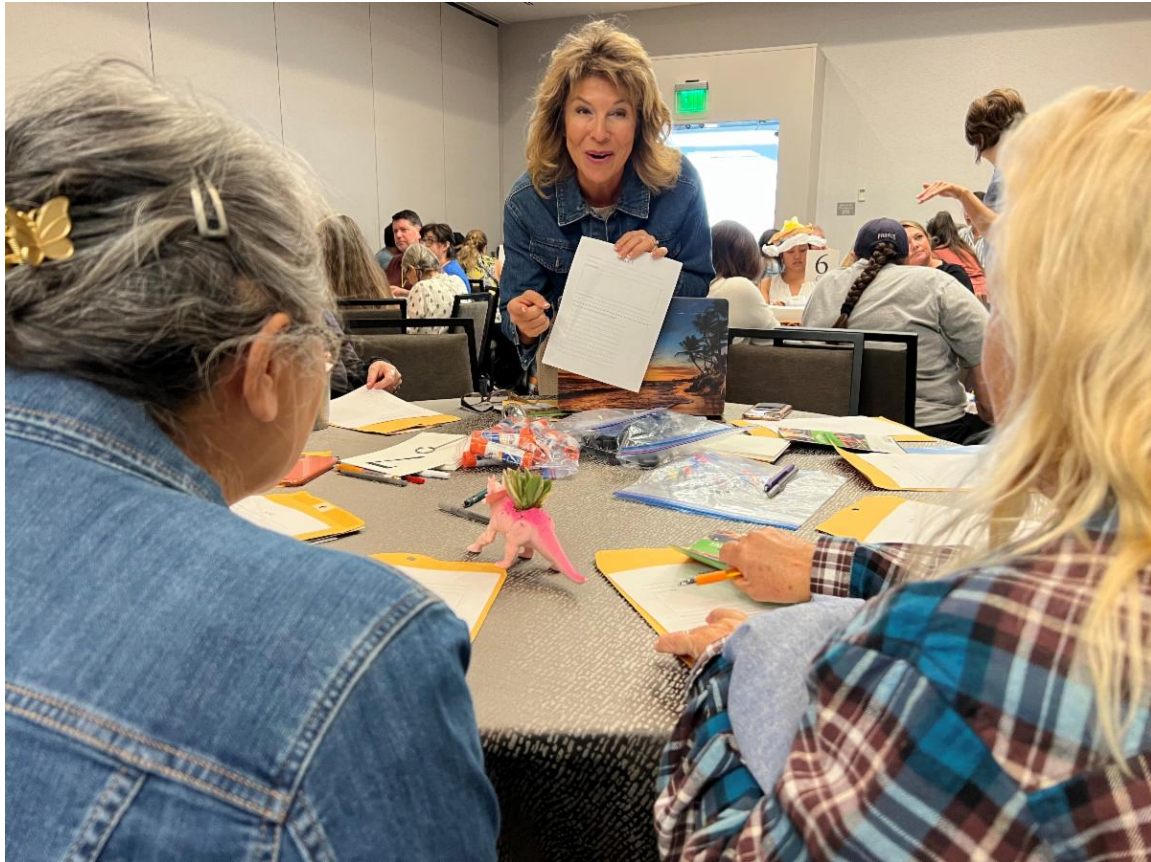
Registration Costs:

- Early Bird Registration Price (July 1 - August 16): \$365
- Last Chance Registration: (August 17 - September 13): \$385

[REGISTER FOR CONFERENCE](#)



LearnAboutAg®



CALL FOR CONFERENCE MAKE 'N' TAKE PRESENTERS

Are you interested in providing teaching strategies and practical connections to agriculture using hands-on activities suitable for the classroom? Be a Make 'n' Take presenter!

Make 'n' Take is a fast-paced, high-energy learning exchange designed to demonstrate informative, interactive, and agriculturally themed activities to use in multiple subject areas for various grade levels and abilities.

We encourage activities that include accompanying hand-outs and supporting material for educators that satisfy CA content, Common Core, or Next Generation Science Standards. Please bring extra sets for CFAITC to keep.

The session will consist of four 20-minute rotations with approximately 10-20 participants per rotation, per presenter.

This exciting event is held at 10:00 am on Sunday, September 29 (set up at 9:00 am) as we conclude the AITC Conference.

APPLY TO BE A PRESENTER



LearnAboutAg®

Imagine This...

Writing Contest

Students grades 3-8

Submit stories by scanning here!



Deadline: November 1

Learn About Ag
California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Down in the Dirt!
By Norris Watts
Irisia Perez, Teacher | Visual Arts from the Fine Arts Club at Cerritos
Illustrated by Melissa Rodriguez

Responsible? Can Be Proud!
By [Name]

Invasion
A Story Inspired by Agriculture
By [Name]

Imagine This...
Stories Inspired by Agriculture
2022

Stories Inspired by Agriculture
2022
Irisia Perez
Melissa Rodriguez
Norris Watts
[Name]
[Name]
[Name]

Imagine YOUR student as a published author!

Encourage your students, or the 3-8 graders in your life to submit a story. Winning author's stories (illustrated by high school art students) are published in a book, and students are recognized at the state capitol in the spring.

Need inspiration? Watch this [video](#) featuring last year's winners! Check out a [news coverage](#) of the event.

FIND OUT MORE & SUBMIT A STORY HERE!



Teacher Feature



YESENIA GUERRERO
Marguerite Montgomery Elementary
School
Davis, CA

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

I love the variety of dairy products from California, especially ice cream!

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

I heard about Ag in the Classroom during my credential program but just brought the resources into my classroom this year.

How long have you been teaching students about agriculture?

I've been teaching about agriculture in general since my first year as a teacher, during the 2019-2020 school year. At my school, we use SEAL units, Sobrato Early Academic Language. One of the units is

Farm to Fork, where we cover, among many things, how milk products get to our table, the ideal and non-ideal conditions for crops, the ecosystem of an almond orchard and fight for farm workers' rights, and land use in California.

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

My favorite program is [Taste and Teach](#) because it provides our class an opportunity to try various foods and have different experiences with food.

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

Try not to see this as something else to "fit into" the lesson plan, as I had difficulty incorporating resources at first. There is so much that can be done with the activities that Ag in the Classroom provides, such as categorizing and classifying foods, opinion writing after trying something, procedural writing, art, science, and even history.

Any ag-ha moments in your classroom? Where has agriculture come alive for your students?

We've had many of these moments, but one that stands out involves nuts. My students were doing an [almond taste and teach activity](#), and they were so excited to learn that they live near almond orchards! They had passed by the trees many times without realizing what they were!

BE OR NOMINATE A TEACHER FEATURE: EMAIL US HERE!

California Grows...

California is the leading agricultural state in the nation producing more than 400 commodities, with a value of \$49.1 billion. Specialty crops make up a majority of the commodities grown in California. You can say that California is pretty special!

Top 3 Commodities by County



Learn About Ag
LearnAboutAg.org

2020-21 statistics information obtained from California Agricultural Statistics Review

A perfect poster for the new school year! Get our ever-popular FREE California grows map. The illustration details where specialty California crops grow. A fun and visual way to bring agriculture into your classroom.

GET THE RESOURCE

Grant Feature



BEE GRANTS

In partnership with The Bee Cause Project

This grant program allows schools and non-profit organizations to receive support for educational beehives and bee programming so students can observe bees up close and learn



about pollinators' vital role in our food system.

**Application deadline:
September 4, 2024**

[LEARN MORE AND APPLY](#)



Community Events

[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 PreK through 12th grade.

Register [HERE](#).

[Santa Barbara County Farm Day](#)

August 24, 2024

More than 10 Santa Barbara County farms, ranches, and organizations will open their doors and invite the public to experience a day full of FREE agricultural activities and tours during the 6th Annual Santa Barbara County Farm Day.

More information [HERE](#).

[Yuba Sutter Farm Day](#)

September 27, 2024

Farm Day provides educational exhibits (equipment, livestock, and crops), and demonstrations geared towards educating our local 3rd grade students on the important role agriculture plays in our lives.

Farm Day provides basic and current facts about the agricultural industry, allows students and teachers to become familiar with food and animal production, and allows personal contact with farmers.

More information [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.

2025 Sessions now open for registration.

More information [HERE](#).

[California Science Education Conference](#)

November 8-10
Sacramento, CA

The California Science Foundation Education Conference aims to ignite curiosity, inspire discovery, and illuminate minds. From dynamic workshops to engaging presentations, this conference is your gateway to cutting-edge teaching strategies, hands-on activities, and invaluable networking opportunities. More information [HERE](#).

[Ventura County Farm Day](#)

November 12, 2024

More than 15 Ventura County farms, ranches, and agricultural organizations will open their doors to invite the public to experience a day of agricultural activities and tours during the 12th Annual Ventura County Farm Day. More information [HERE](#).

[California School Nutrition Association Conference](#)

November 13-16, 2024
Sacramento, CA

The CSNA Annual Conference focuses on school nutrition education and personnel. 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!**

Stay Connected! @LearnAboutAg



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