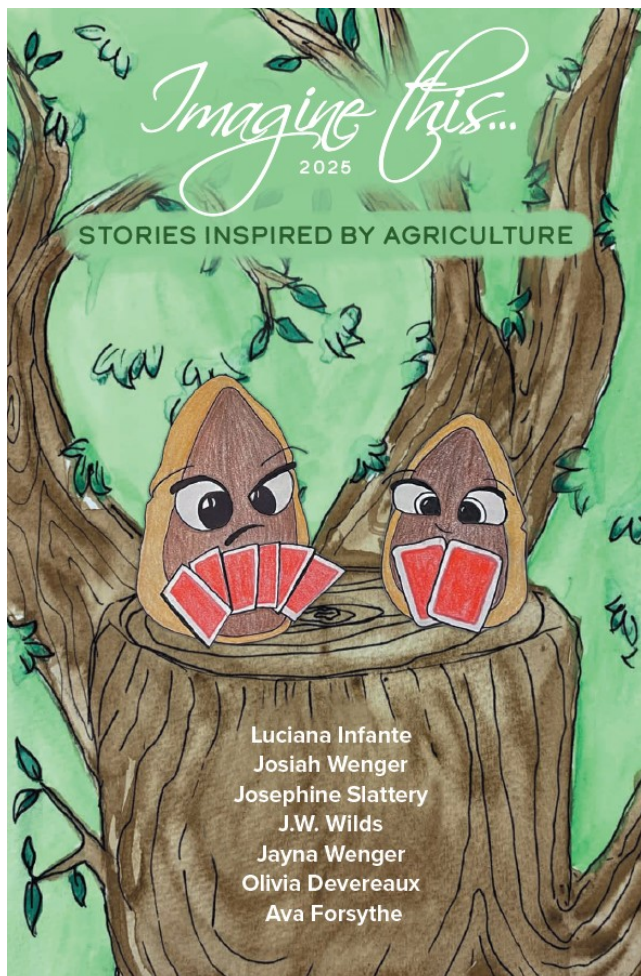


CREAM OF THE CROP

A Harvest of Ideas for Educators

Fantastic Fact: Most eggs arrive at supermarkets within 72 hours after laying!



New Book!

Introducing the 2025 Imagine this...
Stories Inspired by Agriculture
book.

Seven student-winning authors
were celebrated at the California
Capitol to acknowledge this
outstanding achievement during
Ag Day at the Capitol festivities.

This year's book explores various
aspects of California agriculture,
from the importance of
bees, almond production, and
aquaculture to tales about rice,
Buddha's Hand Citrus, olives, and
raising chickens.

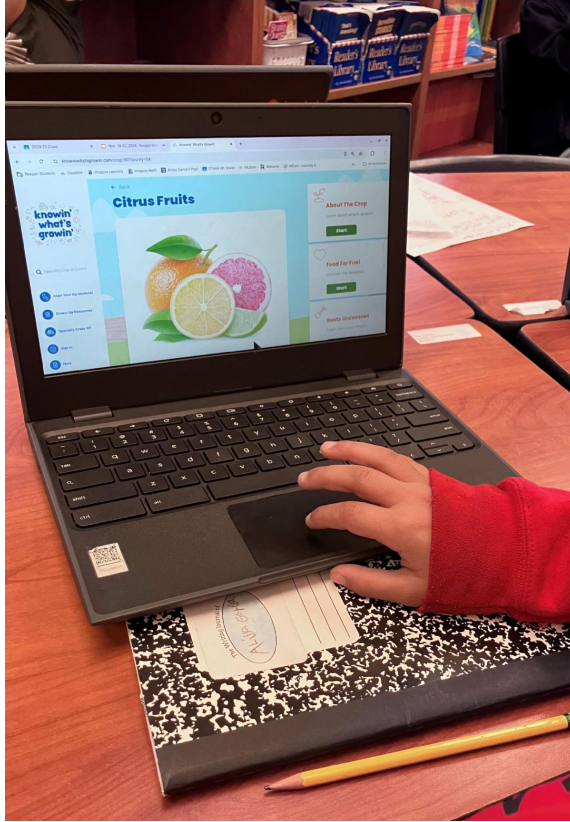
High school art students from
throughout the state illustrated the
stories.

IMAGINE THIS 2025 CONTEST WINNERS AND BOOK



LearnAboutAg®

Teachers, have you checked out
our [newest web-based tool](#)? With
the help of geolocation services,
students can dive into an
interactive adventure, exploring
the specialty crops growing in their



community and beyond!

We've created a [printable scavenger hunt](#) to take students on an adventure to discover the top three specialty crops in their county!

Plus, after completing the scavenger hunt, students can share their feedback in a quick [one-minute survey](#) to help us keep improving. Try it out and let the learning (and growing) begin!

KNOWIN' WHAT'S GROWIN'

“My secret sauce is making agriculture relatable and hands-on. I focus on real-world connections and show my students how agriculture impacts their daily lives.”

Jenna Silacci
5th Grade Teacher
Dunham School
Petaluma, CA



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

Milk! California is a major milk producer, so if we're talking about using milk, there are so many delicious ways to enjoy it!

What is your favorite way to eat/prepare the commodity?

My favorite way to enjoy milk is by making homemade milkshakes! Super simple and classic.

How long have you been teaching students about agriculture?

This is my third year bringing agriculture into the classroom. I started by inviting our local Dairy Princess to visit my class, which was a great way to tie agriculture to our lessons. It's been an exciting journey to help students see the connections between agriculture and their everyday lives.

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

My favorite event has been the AITC Conference! I attended my first conference this past September in Costa Mesa, and I was instantly in awe of the abundance of resources available. The opportunity to connect with other educators, learn about new tools, and explore innovative ways to bring agriculture into the classroom was truly inspiring.

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

My advice for other teachers looking to implement agriculture into their classrooms is to reach out to local organizations. The Sonoma County Farm Bureau and local high school FFA chapters have been incredible resources. They're always willing to support and collaborate,

and their real-world connections to agriculture make the lessons even more meaningful for students.

Any Ag-ha moments in your classroom?

I love when my students get the chance to take what they're learning and see it in person during field trips to farms. It's amazing to watch the lightbulb go off when they recognize something they've learned in the classroom. It's such a cool experience for them to connect the lessons to the real world.

What's your secret sauce to make your students interested in agriculture?

My secret sauce is making agriculture relatable and hands-on. I focus on real-world connections and show my students how agriculture impacts their daily lives. I try to engage them with experiences that make agriculture feel tangible.

Why should teachers bring agriculture into their classrooms?

Agriculture touches every aspect of our daily lives, from the food we eat to the products we use. By incorporating it into lessons, we help students understand where things come from!

BE OR NOMINATE A TEACHER FEATURE: EMAIL US HERE!



Featured Resource

All About Eggs Activity Pack

GRADES K-8

Egg Gravity Test
Name: _____
Can a ramp keep my eggs from breaking?
Materials: Fresh eggs, Paper plate, Cardboard, Clothes or utility blade, Ruler, Tape
Procedure: 1. Break an egg from approximately 12 inches above a surface. What happens? How is gravity affecting the egg?
2. Sketch a design for a ramp that would help an egg fall from a height of 12 inches. How long would the egg take to fall from falling off the ramp?
3. Build a ramp using the materials listed above. Test your ramp by rolling an egg down it. What happens? How long does it take for the egg to reach the bottom?
4. Repeat the experiment with different ramp designs. Which design works best? Why?

EGGS... Sized-up!
Name: _____
Egg size, typically noted on the carton, helps consumers the minimum required weight for a dozen eggs. Use the information given to determine the average weight of each egg. Express your answer in decimal form, round to the nearest 10th.

Anatomy of an Egg
Name: _____
Use the descriptions of each functioning part to label the egg.
Like all living things, eggs consist of functioning parts that protect the egg and provide nutritional benefits for us!

Shell Per Dozen	Average Weight (in ounces)
12 ounces	
18 ounces	
24 ounces	
30 ounces	
36 ounces	

Shell Made mostly of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) and covered with more than 10,000 pores. The shell protects the contents.

Shell membrane Two strong, thin layers immediately inside the shell. The outer membrane protects the egg. Made partly of keratin, a protein that is also in human hair.

Yolk The yellow part of the egg. It is made up of proteins, lipids, and other nutrients. It is the source of energy for the developing embryo.

Albumen Commonly known as the egg white, the albumen contains approximately 70 different proteins.

Air cell A pocket of air located by the top of the egg. It is the space between the two membranes.

Chalazae Two rod-like structures that anchor the yolk in the center of the albumen.

5 Activities

Crack open some fun this spring with this print-and-go resource!

Students will dive into the world of eggs—exploring sizes, weights, anatomy, and even egg folklore from around the world. They'll also follow an egg's journey to the grocery store and put their creativity to the test by designing a way to keep an egg safe in a gravity challenge. Just grab a carton of eggs and some basic supplies—there's something for every learner!

Grades K-8

ALL ABOUT EGGS ACTIVITY PACK



Grant Feature

FUEL UP EQUIPMENT GRANT



Make healthy changes in your school! K-12 schools can now apply for a school nutrition equipment grant to help increase student participation in, and access to, nutritious school meals.

To qualify, schools must participate in the National School Lunch Program.

Deadline: April 8, 2025

APPLY FOR GRANT



Community Events



We're back...in the Farm to Fork Capitol, that is!

From field trips to our ever-popular farmers' panel, to hands-on learning and so much more, join us in Sacramento this September to learn how to bring agriculture into the classroom.

2025 CONFERENCE INFORMATION



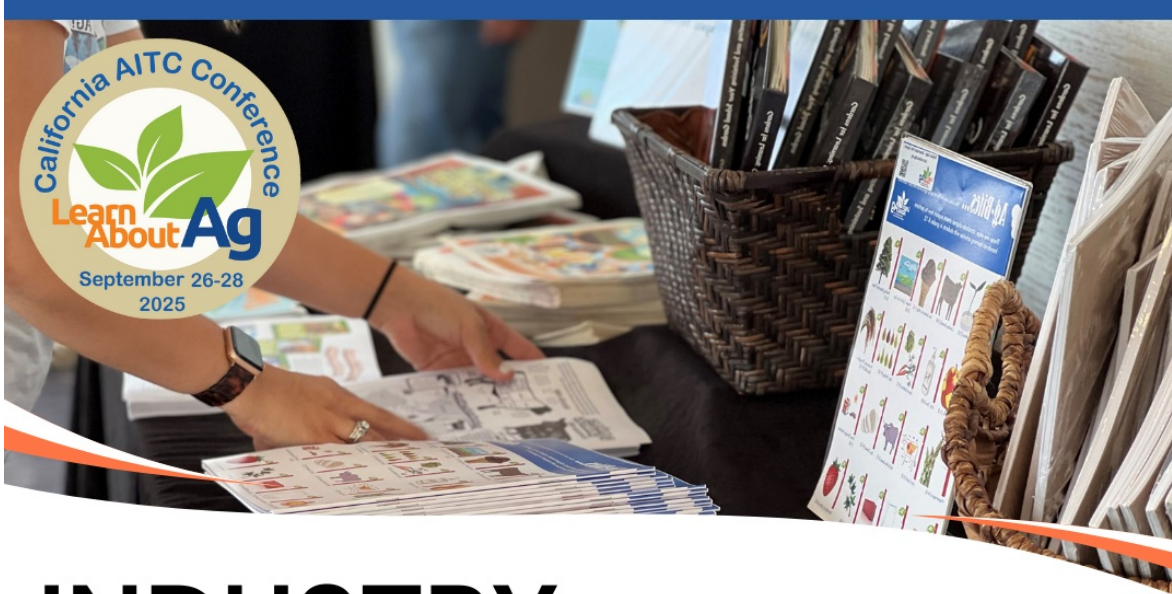
Calling All Presenters

Help others bring agriculture into the classroom by sharing your knowledge at the AITC Conference this fall in Sacramento.

We are accepting submittals for workshop presentations and Make 'N' Take presentations (short hands-on activities, where participants get to make, then take, their creations).

[Workshop Proposal Form](#)

[Make 'N' Take Proposal Form](#)



INDUSTRY RECEPTION

HILTON SACRAMENTO ARDEN WEST
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
5:00PM - 7:00PM

COST: \$250

1 table and 2 chairs will be provided

- Engage directly with 200-250 CA educators
- Showcase the resources, products, or services you have to offer
- Enjoy wine and heavy appetizers for up to 2 people

Agriculture industry organizations, partners and friends!

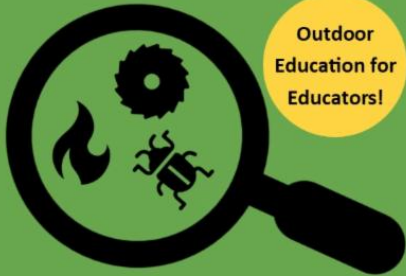
Join us for an exciting opportunity to showcase your organization and resources while networking with educators throughout the Golden State. See more information, below.

INDUSTRY RECEPTION INFORMATION



Forestry Institute for Teachers 2025 FIT Summer Sessions

Curious about forestry and environmental education?



Outdoor Education for Educators!

Dive deep into key ecological and management issues facing California's forests at FIT's residential summer PD sessions!



FIT is professional learning for all PK-12 California educators, including: formal and nonformal educators, program leads, administrators and curriculum specialists.



Space is limited

FIT's team of credentialed instructors and local experts weave environmental education with unique forestry field experiences to help you explore ecosystem stewardship for current and future generations.

Session	Location	Dates
El Dorado	Georgetown	June 15 - 21
Tuolumne	Sonora	June 22 - 28
Shasta	Shingletown	June 29 - July 5
Humboldt	Arcata	July 13 - 19

See website to learn more about sessions



Registration (\$125) covers: room, board & materials



CALIFORNIA project WET WATER EDUCATION TODAY



Visit forestryinstitute.org today!

Registration is open for the Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) 2025 summer program.

Join fellow educators and natural resource professionals at one of FIT's immersive, week-long professional learning sessions. FIT's teams of credentialed instructors and local experts weave environmental education curricula with unique forestry field experiences to help you explore forest stewardship for current and future generations. Expect an enriching week of outdoor learning that will expand your perspectives and teaching practice.

PreK-12+ educators (formal and nonformal) of any subject matter are encouraged to participate. Consider attending with colleagues from your school site or district to enrich your experience. Registration covers room, board, and materials.

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION



Community Events

[Cherry Blossoms in San Francisco](#)

April 12-13 and April 19-20, 2025

Experience the biggest burst of cherry blossoms outside of Washington D.C. at the Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival in Japantown.

More information [HERE](#).

[National Park Week in California](#)

April 20-27, 2025

Free admission on April 20th. Take advantage of breathtaking hikes, family-friendly programs, and live theater this week.

More information [HERE](#).

[School Garden Support Organization](#)

[Network Webinars](#)

A Taste of Indigenous Foods

April 30, 2025

Register [HERE](#).

Indigenous Connections from Classroom to Cafeteria

May 28, 2025

Register [HERE](#).

[National Ag in the Classroom Conference](#)

June 23-26, 2025

Minneapolis, Minnesota

"Lakes, Lands, and Legends" is a premier professional development event for K-12 teachers, volunteers, and professionals in agricultural literacy.

Early Bird Registration closes April 27, 2025.

Register [HERE](#).

[CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference](#)

Save the date!

September 26-28, 2025

Sacramento, CA

The conference is designed for PreK-12 grade educators, administrators, and volunteers to learn and share how to incorporate food and fiber into all curricular areas.

From hands-on learning and workshops to engaging guest speakers and field trips, this event is an incredible way to learn how to bring agriculture education into the classroom.

Registration opens May 2, 2025.

Find out more [HERE](#).

Thank You Sponsors!



The James G. Boswell Foundation



ELIZABETH AND ROBERT RENIERS



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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