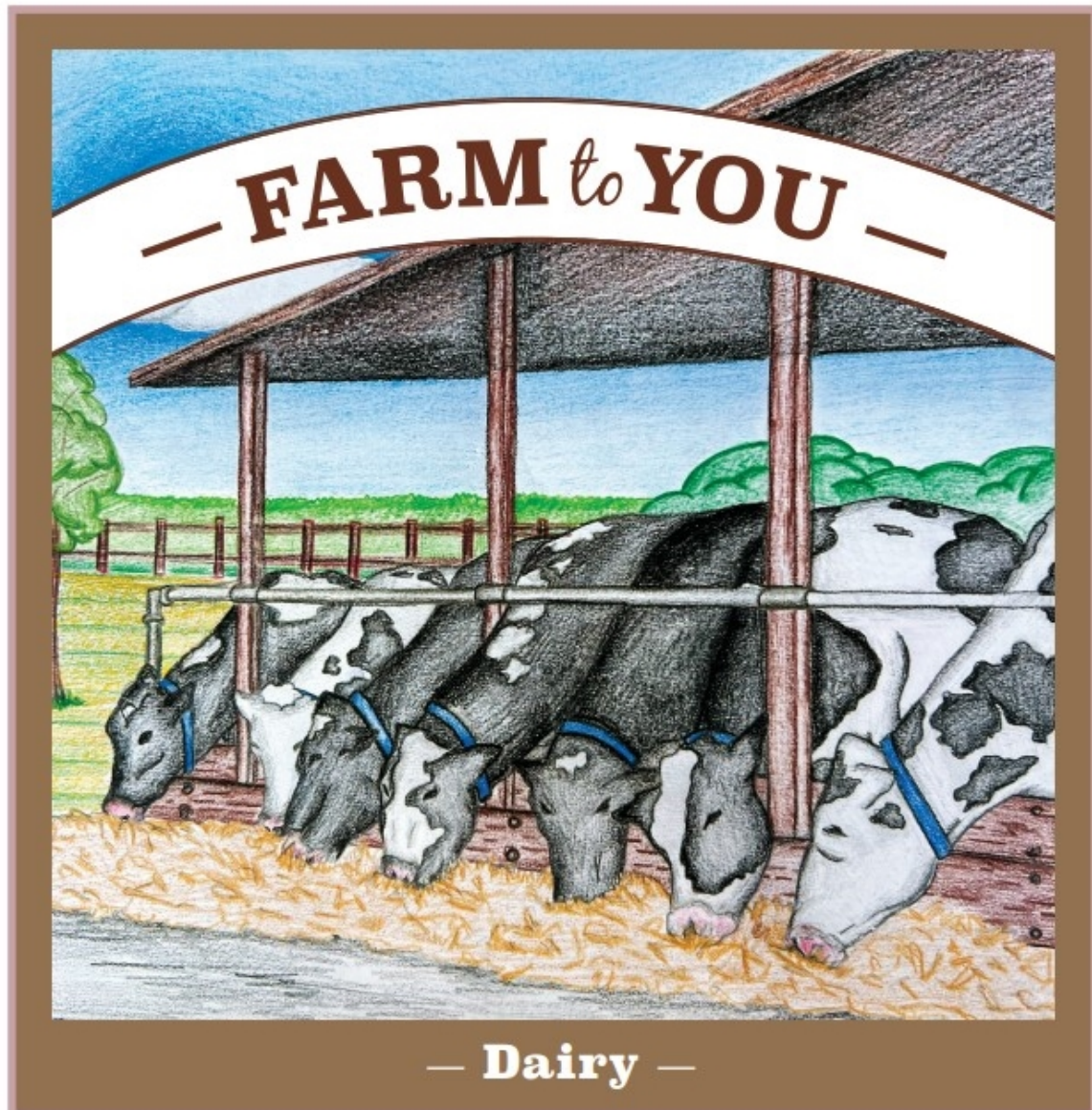


CREAM OF THE CROP

Fantastic Fact: Blueberry bushes can grow up to 12 feet tall



New Farm to You Resource

Introducing Farm to You, Dairy, the newest addition to our Farm to You collection.

Starting with the sun, there is quite a journey to bring our food from the farm to your table. Agricultural products are carefully prepared for consumers, involving many steps and checks for

quality assurance.

These teaching resources include a colorful illustration, photos, and hands-on lesson plans and activities to help students understand the people and processes involved from Farm to You!

FARM TO YOU DAIRY RESOURCE



LearnAboutAg®



Conference Here We Come!

Join California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom in the Farm-to-Fork Capitol.

Registration is open for the annual Ag in the Classroom Conference, September 26-28, 2025. This fun-filled, 3-day hands-on event is designed for PreK-12 grade educators, administrators, and volunteers to come together to learn and share how to incorporate food and fiber into all curricular areas.

2025 AITC CONFERENCE



Taste and Teach Opens May 16!

Helping students learn where their food and fiber come from is a critical message.

Taste and Teach, sponsored by Raley's, Stater Bros. Markets explores twelve different CA commodities throughout the school year. Students engage in taste testing and interactive hands-on activities.

Newfound knowledge equips students with information on how to make healthy food choices while learning about California agriculture.

TASTE AND TEACH INFORMATION & APPLICATION



"Every year, I end my social studies unit with CA agriculture. On the last day, students get to make ice cream after learning about the state's top commodities."

Rebecca Osumi
Teaches: 4th & 5th Grade Combo
Grover Heights
Grover Beach, CA



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

Strawberries are my favorite California commodity. My family farmed them for over 50 years between Southern California and the Central Coast.

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

Strawberry shortcake is my favorite! We grew up with strawberries topped on fresh biscuits and whipped cream. But they are also pretty amazing with brownies!

When did you first learn about Ag in the Classroom?

I was introduced to the program as a student at Cal Poly. I then used it as a teaching resource when I worked in Sacramento, and I continue to utilize the resources with my elementary students here on the Central Coast.

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

Every year I use the [What's Growin' On? student newspaper](#) to introduce elementary students to California's top commodities. I supplement the lessons with activities including the [California Grows Map](#) and the [Where Your Food Grows placemat](#).

This year, I'm also excited to try out the new [Knowin' What's Growin' interactive site](#) to let students individually explore our specific area

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

Start with something hands-on and let students learn by exploring for themselves!

A lot of students don't have the background knowledge of where their food comes from, so simple and fun activities like seed planting or taste testing!

There are so many local entities that love to support ag literacy, so you don't have to have all of the answers yourself. You can easily find some wonderful free resources to help bring ag to every age!

Any Ag-ha moments in your classroom?

I've tried to embrace my alma mater's slogan "learn by doing", and provide opportunities for students to engage in agriculture.

Every year, I end my social studies unit with CA agriculture, and on the last day, they get to make ice cream after learning the top commodities. I love watching them connect to the products they see in their refrigerator or at stores, and seeing how agriculture impacts their own life.

Our mini in-class ag week is one I get asked about each year by former students, and it's amazing what facts they still remember.

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

Allowing students to "taste the California commodities". So many of them each year have never had some of the main commodities California is known for. So as part of my mini-ag week, they sample and study these commodities.

Why should teachers bring agriculture into their classrooms?

Students of every age need to understand not only where their food comes from, but also the products that they use daily that wouldn't exist without agriculture. In my area, students are surrounded by so many farms and ranches, and it's a valuable skill for them to know what's around them, in addition to fostering an appreciation, and then also hopefully spark their curiosity into pursuing an agricultural activity or education in their future!

BE OR NOMINATE A TEACHER FEATURE: EMAIL US HERE!



Featured Resource

3

Ice Cream in a Bag

Grades 1-5

Explore the history of ice cream and dairy products, and the chemistry of ice, salt, and exothermic reactions.

Recipe

1. Fill the large bag half full of ice and add the rock salt. Seal the bag.
2. Put milk, vanilla, and sugar into the small bag and seal it. You can use two bags to prevent leaking.
3. Place the small bag inside the large one, sealing it again, carefully.
4. Shake until the mixture is ice cream, which takes about 5 minutes.
5. Wipe off the top of the small bag, then open it carefully. Enjoy!

Classroom Activities

English Language Arts/History

- Identify an ice cream processing facility near your community and try a few of their flavors.
- Have students research the history of ice cream or other dairy products and present their findings to the class.

Math

- Determine the cost per serving to make ice cream in a bag. Calculate the cost of each ingredient and the total cost overall.
- Have students multiply and divide fractions to determine the amount of supplies needed for 1 scoop of ice cream for each person in the whole class, half the class, etc.

Science

- Create a food chain or food web with cows and humans and explain the relationships.
- Have students write down their observations and discuss the process of how milk turned into ice cream, describing the physical and chemical properties.

Materials

- 1 gallon-size plastic food storage bag
- Ice cubes
- 6 tablespoons rock salt
- 1 pint-size resealable plastic food storage bag
- ½ cup milk or half & half
- ¼ teaspoon vanilla
- 1 tablespoon sugar

Tip

A ½ cup of milk will make about 1 scoop of ice cream; double the recipe if you want more.



California Standards:

Grade 1

- CC ELA: RI.1.10, SL.1.1
- CC Math: 1.OA.1, 1.MD.4

Grade 2

- CC ELA: RI.2.10, SL.2.1
- CC Math: 2.OA.1, 2.MD.8
- NGSS: 2-PS1-1

Grade 3

- CC ELA: RI.3.10, SL.3.1, SL.3.4
- CC Math: 3.OA.1, 3.MD.2

Grade 4

- CC ELA: RI.4.10, SL.4.1, SL.4.4
- CC Math: 4.NF.4c, 4.MD.2

Grade 5

- CC ELA: RI.5.10, SL.5.1, SL.5.4
- CC Math: 5.NF.1, 5.NF.2
- NGSS: 5-PS1-3, 5-PS1-4, 5-PS3-1

Adapted from "Acres of Adventures Activity Guides" by 4-H

This is one in a series of Ag-Bites developed by CFAITC. Ag-Bites meet the standards of the California Department of Education. 2600 River Plaza Drive, Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95833-3377 • (800) 700-AITC • info@LearnAboutAg.org • LearnAboutAg.org © 2022 California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Take a tip from our Teacher Feature and celebrate summer with ice cream too!

Ice Cream in a Bag is a delicious way to examine the chemistry of ice, salt, and exothermic reactions. Additionally, the Ag-Bite incorporates lessons in English and Math.

ICE CREAM IN A BAG



to transition from serving milk in single-use cartons or bottles to serving milk in bulk. This includes bulk milk dispensers, staff training, marketing materials, and technical assistance.

Serving milk in bulk not only lets schools drastically cut waste, it keeps milk colder and fresher longer. Kids consistently report milk tastes better when its served in bulk!

Apply by June 26, 2025.

[APPLY FOR GRANT](#)



SUMER FUN FOR EVERYONE! FREE TOURS - \$4 ACTIVITIES

FOR FAMILIES, FRIENDS, SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, TRAVEL GROUPS AND MORE!



ICE CREAM ACTIVITY, CHEESE MAKING, AGXSCAPE GAME, FREE CHEESE SAMPLES

REQUEST A TOUR HERE!

hilmar.com/tours/



9001 North Lander Avenue, Hilmar, CA 95324 | T: 209.656.1196 | www.hilmar.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 7 AM to 6 PM | Sat 10 AM to 2 PM | CLOSED Sundays and National holidays

Calling All Presenters

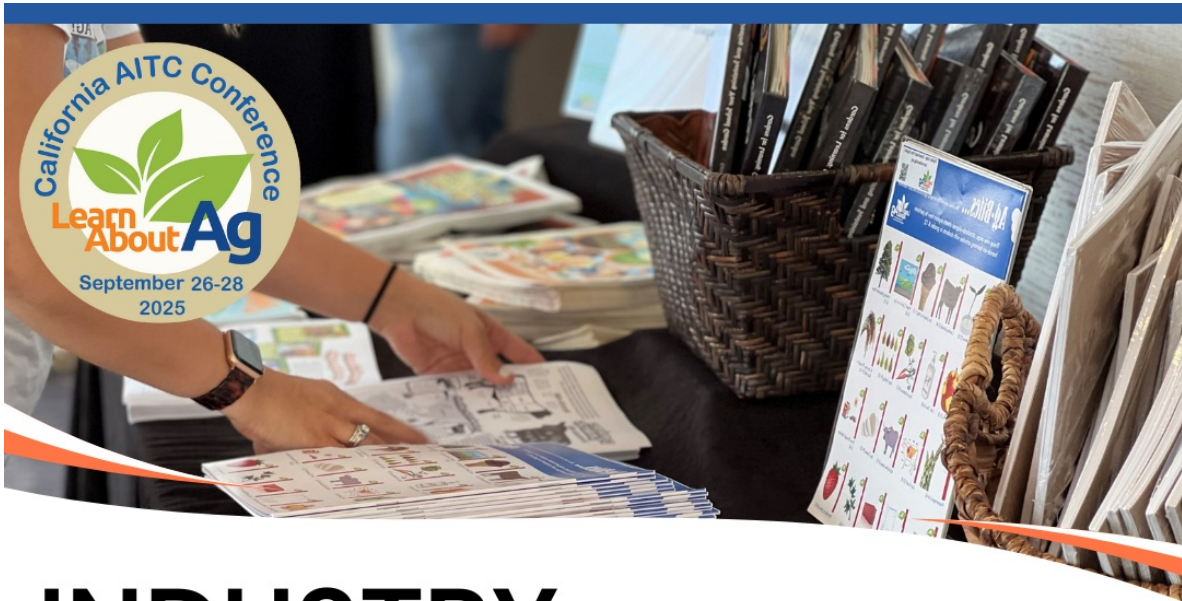
Help others bring agriculture into the classroom by sharing your knowledge at the AITC Conference this fall in Sacramento.

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](#)
Deadline: May 23, 2025



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.



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!



Forestry Institute for Teachers

2025 FIT Summer Sessions



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

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.



Space is limited

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

brought to you in part by



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.



**[School Garden Support Organization
Network Webinars](#)**

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.

Registration closes April 27, 2025.

Register [HERE](#).

[Writing Contest from Ag in the Classroom](#)

Submission dates August 1-October 1

NEW dates!

We want your students' stories!

AITC sponsored Writing contest for California-based students, grades 3-8.

Students select an agriculture topic, research it, and write a creative story, real or imagined.
Common Core State Standards (W.3-8.2,3)

High school art students illustrate the winning stories.

More Information: [HERE](#).

[CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference](#)

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 open!

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



California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom | 2600 River Plaza Drive, #220 | Sacramento, CA 95833 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!