

Welcome

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC) invites you to explore this guide and utilize the materials, ideas and concepts that have proven successful in many counties across the state! Agriculture literacy is a key step in linking production agriculture with the state's public and private school students across the grade span of K-12 and even beyond! It is imperative that Farm Bureaus take an active roll in promoting agriculture literacy to both students and their teachers in an effort to teach about the importance of the food and fiber industries here in this great state.

California's vast economy and the future of the farmers and ranchers in this state rely upon consumers making educated decisions about agriculture and all of its related fields. The mission of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is to **increase the awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students.**

Through efforts such as those of the Farm Bureau and local Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) programs, CFAITC's vision, *an appreciation of agriculture by all*, will be accomplished.



Credits and Acknowledgments

This guide was made possible through the contributions of many different organizations, including county Farm Bureaus, AITC committees and their dedicated volunteers, and California educators.

Published by:
California Foundation for
Agriculture in the Classroom

Developed by:
Patricia L. Stever
Program Coordinator
March, 2002

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational foundation, provides educators with low cost and free materials, training, and information to promote student understanding of California agriculture.

Table of Contents

Welcome -----	1
Credits and Acknowledgments -----	2
List of Templates -----	4
Purpose of Guide -----	5
Making AITC Happen in your County	
⇒ Building an AITC Committee -----	9
⇒ Getting Started -----	10
⇒ County Survey of Activities -----	11
⇒ Identifying your Audience -----	12
⇒ Assessing your Resources -----	13
⇒ Forming Partnerships -----	15
⇒ Defining your Mission and Setting Goals -----	16
County Program Planning	
⇒ Consumer Program Ideas -----	21
⇒ Teacher Program Ideas:	
Planning Summer Agricultural Seminars -----	23
Make-N-Take Workshops -----	26
Ag/Farm Days -----	31
Other Useful County Tips	
⇒ Agricultural Television Programs -----	41
⇒ Fundraising Ideas for Volunteer Committees -----	42
⇒ Tips for Working with the Media -----	47
County Scrapbook -----	49
⇒ Sample Workshop Agendas and Programs	
⇒ Sample Evaluations and Assessment Tools	
⇒ Sample County Newsletters and Other Ideas	
Appendix	
⇒ History of the National AITC Movement -----	53
⇒ California's AITC History -----	54
⇒ CFAITC Board of Directors -----	55
⇒ CFAITC Staff Members -----	56
⇒ CFAITC Educational Resource Committee -----	57
⇒ CFAITC Programs and Resources -----	62
⇒ County Support Services -----	65
⇒ Evaluation Form -----	67



List of Templates and Samples

County Survey of Activities-----	11
Identifying your Audience -----	12
Assessing your Resources-----	13
Forming Partnerships -----	15
Defining your Mission and Setting Goals -----	16
Make-N-Take Workshop flyer-----	27
Make-N-Take Workshop Time Schedule -----	28
Make-N-Take Workshop Sample Budget -----	29
Make-N-Take Workshop Presentation	
Application form -----	30
Sample Ag/Farm Day Student Test-----	35
Sample Ag/Farm Day Student Test Key -----	37
County Scrapbook Samples-----	49
Flyers	
Newsletters	
Agendas	
Contest Promotions	
County Fair Ideas	

Purpose of Guide

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (CFAITC) hopes that this guide will serve as a tool to enhance and enrich local program work in every county in California. It is the goal of CFAITC to help support you with guidance, partnerships, materials, and resources for promoting agriculture literacy.

With this binder as a tool, Farm Bureau leaders and managers, volunteer committees, educators, and others interested in supporting agriculture literacy can access information on the following topics:

- ✓ Tools and templates for organizing agriculture literacy projects
- ✓ Ideas for local program planning
- ✓ Information about CFAITC and its programs and resources

Not every project or plan works for every county. Please keep in mind that these planning sheets and ideas are suggestions and recommendations that have worked in other counties and may be useful as you make Agriculture in the Classroom happen in your local area.

