



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**SMITHFIELD FOODS SUPPORTS NATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM TO
EDUCATE STUDENTS ABOUT SUSTAINABLE FARMING METHODS**

Smithfield Foods, Inc., an American food company and one of the world's leading vertically integrated protein companies, is partnering with National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO) to strengthen pre-kindergarten through 12th grade agricultural literacy and educate teachers and students about methods it and its affiliates are using to reduce their impacts on the environment.

The lessons, "[Farming for Energy](#)" for elementary students and "[Pig Power: Creating Biogas and Renewable Energy](#)" for secondary students, explore renewable and non-renewable energy sources, biogas production and the use of anaerobic digesters to convert animal manure into renewable energy – illustrating some of the ways Smithfield is working to meet its sustainability goals. NAITCO's partner, the National Center for Agricultural Literacy, created the lessons.

"Smithfield is a leader in sustainability, and we are especially proud of our industry-leading carbon reduction and renewable energy efforts, including our 'manure-to-energy' projects," said Stewart Leeth, chief sustainability officer for Smithfield Foods. "Our company is committed to supporting education and we ourselves are continuously learning and improving our sustainability program through new ideas and innovations. We're honored to support National Agriculture in the Classroom and its Agriculture in the Classroom state and territory programs to help educate the next generation on the importance of sustainable agriculture and food production."

"Innovative food companies like Smithfield are important partners to National Agriculture in the Classroom and its Agriculture in the Classroom member programs because they allow teachers and students to see how new technologies bring food from the farm to the table more efficiently and with fewer environmental impacts," said Denise Stewardson, president of NAITCO and director of Utah Agriculture in the Classroom. "Science, technology, engineering, and math concepts are taught using an agricultural lens in these new lessons thanks to Smithfield's input and support."

About Smithfield Foods, Inc.

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Headquartered in Smithfield, VA since 1936, Smithfield Foods, Inc. is an American food company with agricultural roots and a global reach. Our 63,000 team members are dedicated to producing "Good food. Responsibly.®" and have made us one of the world's leading vertically integrated protein companies. We have pioneered sustainability standards for more than two decades, including our industry-leading commitments to become carbon negative in U.S. company-owned operations and reduce GHG emissions 30 percent across our entire U.S. value chain by 2030. We believe in the power of protein to end food insecurity and have donated hundreds of millions of food servings to our communities. Smithfield boasts a portfolio of high-quality iconic brands, such as Smithfield®, Eckrich® and Nathan's Famous®, among many others. For more information, visit www.smithfieldfoods.com, and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

About National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO)

NAITCO's mission is to increase agricultural literacy through pre-kindergarten through 12th grade education and it does so with an online, searchable database of lessons and resources called the [National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix](#), a national conference, a virtual national conference, a national teacher awards program and professional development and support for teachers and Agriculture in the Classroom state programs in 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NAITCO and its AITC member state and territory programs annually reach thousands of teachers and millions of students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade in the U.S. To learn more about NAITCO, please visit www.agclassroom.org.

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