

Our mission is to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among New Jersey educators and students. You can learn more on our website newjersey.agclassroom.org

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New Jersey Agriculture in the Classroom wishes all teachers first days of school that are smooth and invigorating.

Our mission is to help New Jersey educators teach the subject that does not show up anywhere in the curriculum - agriculture! How do you do this in your already jam-packed teaching day?

Slip a lesson on agriculture into your other core subjects. Check out our [website](#) for the many ways you can include agriculture in language arts, math, science, social studies and health lessons. It's easy! And it will show your students where their food really comes from.



Test your students ag knowledge in a fun ice-breaker

How much do your students know about New Jersey agriculture? As a fun get-to-know-you activity, divide them into small groups to work together to answer some questions.

National Agriculture in the Classroom has fun agricultural quizzes for all grade levels. Your students can ponder together whether flour is made from seeds and whether hamburger comes from pigs.

And in the end, you can ask your students that age-old question:
Does chocolate milk come from a brown cow?
(No, it does not.)

Check out all the agricultural quizzes [here](#).

Soy, the Super Bean!

Our Newest NJ Ag in a Box Topic

NJAITC's *NJ Ag in a Box* series gives teachers in grades 3-5 the resources and materials to teach three lessons each season about one of New Jersey's top crops. The lessons, which each cover a different academic subject, can be modified for older and younger grade levels.

Our latest ag box is Soy, *The Super Bean*.



This box includes the book *Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car*, by Peggy Thomas, which humorously covers Henry Ford's experiments in agriculture, including manufacturing a car completely from soy.

Students will receive crayons made from soy that they can compare to typical oil-based crayons, as well as materials to make plastic from soy.

A class set of 30 Ag Mags on soybeans also come in the box.

An NJ Ag Box costs \$30. See all of our different ag box topics and place an order [here](#).

What's an Ag Mag Anyway?



An Ag Mag is a nonfiction, four-page magazine published by the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

Written for students in grades 3-5, ag mags cover 30 different agricultural topics, ranging from entomology to apples to aquaculture. There are also mini-ag mags for grades K-2.

The newspaper-style magazines are sturdy enough to pass from class to class or use from year to year.

A set of 30 ag mags costs \$6-8. Mini-ag mags are \$5. Shipping will add another \$12.

Click [here](#) to investigate all the ag mag topics.

Now is the Time to Ask for Free Seeds!

Do you need seeds for a classroom or school project? Now is the time to get to know the managers of your local gardening centers, because they are getting rid of their 2026 seed packets.

Every fall, gardening centers -- including those at stores such as



Home Depot, Lowe's, and Walmart -- donate or discard their leftover seed packets. This is because it is against the law for stores to sell 2026 seed packets in future years.

Although the seed packets may be dated 2026, they definitely are not expired. Seeds in 2026 packets will germinate for a few more years.

And if you think your seeds are getting old, you can always test them to see if they germinate.

If you need seeds, visit your local gardening centers now and ask for a donation. You can also ask for leftover bulbs, which become available just before the end of autumn.

Lesson of the Month



Growing Gloves Grades 2-5 *can be modified for older grades*

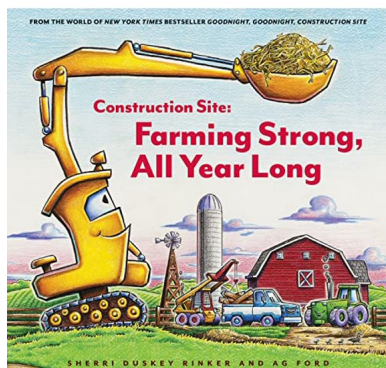
Growing Gloves is the popular science lesson in our NJ Ag in a Box on *Gardening*, which we introduced last spring.

Transparent plastic gloves serve as the container for seed germination in this seed-sprouting experiment.

Students place a different type of seed on moistened cotton balls inside each finger of a glove. This activity is perfect for comparing the germination rates of five types of seeds.

To see the entire lesson, click [here](#). To check out the other lessons in the *Gardening* ag box, click [here](#).

Library Corner

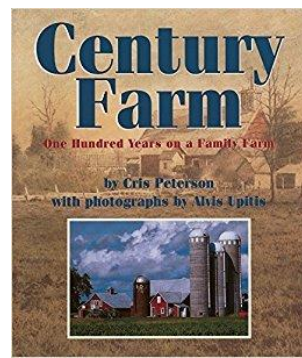


Construction Site: Farming Strong All Year Sherri Duskey Rinker Grades PreK-1

The Construction Site crew is joined by farm vehicles, such as tractors and balers, to tackle seasonal farm jobs. We see them planting in spring, building a barn in the summer, harvesting in fall, and finally tucking the animals in for a cozy winter.

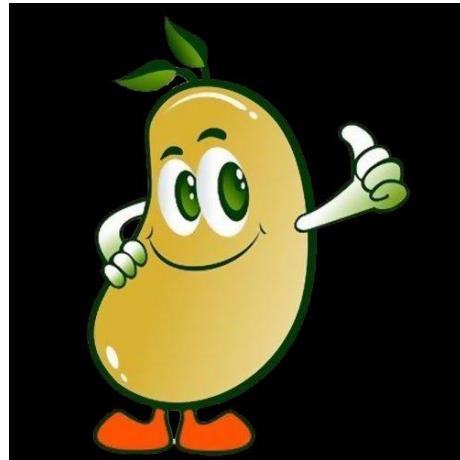
Century Farm **By Cris Peterson** **Grades 2-5**

A Century Farm is a farm that has been continuously worked for 100 years by the same family. In her book *Century Farm*, Cris Peterson shares the story and photos of her husband's family farm as it grew from a barn, house, and granary in the 1890s into a thriving dairy farm today.



September Ag Gag

***Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Bean
Bean who?
Bean a long time since
I've seen you!***



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Newsletter Edition 30, September 2026

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