



New York Agriculture in the Classroom's Agriculture Literacy Week 2011 Final Report

Since 2006 NY Agriculture in the Classroom has celebrated National Agriculture Week with the NY Agriculture Literacy Week Program. Throughout Agriculture Literacy Week volunteers enter 2nd grade classrooms across the state and read a pre-selected book with an agricultural theme, conduct hands-on activities, and speak to students and teachers about the importance of agriculture in our everyday lives. The books along with other resources are then donated to the school library.



In 2011, New York Agriculture Literacy Week highlighted the poultry industry with the book *Chicks and Chickens* by Gail Gibbons. This year was the first year students were evaluated to determine how much they learned after the presentation of the book and activities. Over 700 students from across NYS participated in our ALW “Pre-test” and “Post-test”. Results of the collected tests showed that overall; there was an improvement of the students’ understanding of agricultural themes.

% of students could correctly answer:	Pre	Post
What is agriculture?	29%	73%
Products of chickens	83%	86%
Name of male/female chickens	58%	82%
Importance of farmers (answered with VERY important)	71%	86%

NY Agriculture in the classroom is pleased to announce the 2012 Agriculture Literacy Week book: *Seed, Soil, Sun* by Chris Peterson. In this clearly written and beautifully photographed book, Peterson describes the seemingly miraculous process by which air and water combine with seed, soil, and sun to create nearly all the food we eat. ALW 2012 is set to occur March 19th – 23rd.

For more information regarding New York Agriculture in the Classroom contact: Heather Davis, Coordinator – 607.255.9253 or hed24@cornell.edu

NUMBERS:

- 36,000 Students
- 2,300 Classrooms
- 53 Counties
- 1,382 Total books donated to schools and classrooms
- 1,267 Books were sponsored locally within counties

SPONSORS:

- Northeast Agricultural Education Foundation

PAST ALW THEMES:

- 2006 – Dairy
- 2007 – Gardening
- 2008 – Maple Sugaring
- 2009 – Apples
- 2010 – Forestry
- 2011 - Poultry

