

Resources for Ag in the Classroom from the Alphabet Forest at the Minnesota State Fair

current links: 24 August 2020 – prepared by Anita Dualeh, educator

Teachers and homeschoolers, here are resources for extending the fair's agricultural theme into the school year, with our good wishes for the coming year.

The American Farm Bureau offers free downloadable agricultural resources and lesson plans for grades K-5 and grades 5-12 at <https://www.agfoundation.org/free-resources/>.

The National Agriculture in the Classroom website offers a link to a digital version of Tracy Nelson Maurer's book *John Deere, That's Who* as well as five associated lesson plans designed for learners in grades 3 through 5: <https://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/resources.cfm?rid=763>.

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom provides additional resources on *John Deere, That's Who* at <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/John-Deere-Thats-Who-Teachers-Guide.pdf>.

California Agricultural Fact and Activity Sheets, for middle grades and beyond, provide detailed information and lesson ideas for more than 40 specific agricultural products. They can be retrieved from <https://learnaboutag.org/resources/fact/entire.pdf>.

The Iowa Corn Growers Association offers several coloring sheets with corn facts as well as activity books at <https://www.iowacorn.org/education/fun-for-kids>.

The Dairy Excellence Foundation has a ready-to-use unit on dairy farming including videos, worksheets, and an e-book at <https://www.discoverdairy.com/classroom-enrichment/virtual-learning-library/makin-cows-smile/>.

The National Pork Board has produced *Welcome to Our Farm!*, a curriculum guide for early elementary grades, which is available at <http://www.wppa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/WelcomeToOurFarm.pdf>. Pages 12 to 21 are ready-to-print worksheets including puzzles, games, and activity sheets about farm animals. In addition, there's a 16-page informational coloring book on pig farming at <http://www.wppa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/ColoringBook.pdf>.

At the Poultry Hub, there are a variety of worksheets written for 9- to 11-year-olds, including the unit *Looking at Eggs*, which is at <http://www.poultryhub.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Activity-1-Looking-at-Eggs.pdf>.

The Illinois Soybean Association offers a kids activity packet with a variety of coloring and activity pages for grades K-6 (easier items are at the beginning, but they get more challenging): https://www.ilsoy.org/sites/default/files/media/pdfs/Kids_Coloring_Packet.pdf.

For teaching or reviewing vegetable vocabulary, check out the interactive edible plant game at <https://agforkids.com/edible-plant-game.php>.