

Teachers Supplement Funds Available

Teachers still have time to apply for the 2008 Teachers Supplement grant.

The grants help provide much-needed resources to teachers to help them educate young people about agriculture and food production.

The Iowa Farm Bureau is making \$50,000 available in up to \$200 increments. Funds can be used to increase agricultural literacy in grades K-12 -- from books and field trips to visual aids, videos and a variety of other teaching materials.

Applications are due to the Iowa Farm Bureau office no later than Feb. 1. For more information or to obtain an application, visit www.iowafarmbureau.com.

How can educators use the funds?

- Field trip expenses: Dairy Center, Living History Farms, National Cattle Congress or a local watershed
- Incubator and turner
- Toy tractors/machinery and related books
- Plants, seeds and fertilizer
- Soil sampler kits
- Computer software related to ag business analysis
- Nutrition Lotto and food pyramid kits
- Biotechnology/Genetics curriculum
- Let's Grow Pizza ag day for the school
- Ag related videos/ DVDs such as *America the Bountiful* or *Modern Marvels: Farming Technology*

How can you promote the grants?

- Included with the newsletter is a flyer and application that can be distributed to schools.
- Share the application with your child's (or grandchild's) teacher.
- Use your county AITC database. Send teachers an e-mail and encourage them to apply by using the electronic application available at www.iowafarmbureau.com/programs/aitc/tsa/default.aspx.
- Ask your Area Education Agency to include grant information about in their e-mail updates they send to teachers.
- Write a county Spokesman article promoting the grant availability or feature a previous recipient.

ACADEMY DATES SET



Plans are underway for the 2008 Teachers Academy. The academy is an excellent opportunity for teachers to learn more about agriculture. Strategically integrating agriculture in the classroom is important for community growth. The purpose of the academies is to provide local resources and contacts for teachers. Teachers receive Professional Development Credit (issued by the Area Education Agencies) or graduate credit. Farm Bureau members are also encouraged to attend. The dates for the 2008 IFBF Teachers Academies are:

- June 10-12**—Denison
- June 17-19**—Independence
- July 8-10**—Mount Pleasant

Additional details about the academies will be available in February.

AITC Contacts

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Spotlight Lesson Plan

Calculating Kernels

Grade: Third through Fifth

Subjects: Math, Reading, Language Arts

Standards: Estimates quantities. Understands systems of measurement.

Demonstrates various reading and comprehension strategies.

Able to support opinion with personal insight, facts or examples.

Uses proper grammar/usage in written composition.

Contact Melissa or Jenelle for additional lesson plans.

Resources Support Ag Literacy At All Levels

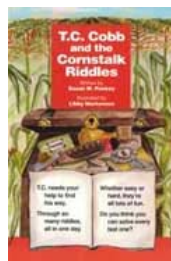
From the Field to Your Fuel Tank (6-12 grades)

Many people are asking, "how does a growing crop turn into a liquid that fuels cars?" Get the step-by-step explanation about how ethanol is made in a short, animated video clip. Check it out: www.drivingethanol.org/ethanol_facts/producing_ethanol.aspx

T.C. Cobb and the Cornstalk Riddles (4-7 grades)

This kit contains a chapter book using riddles to teach students about corn, a teacher's guide, student activities, book-marks and corn seeds.

Meets reading/writing, social studies, math and science standards. The kit is \$5.00 and can be ordered at www.nefb.org/aite_orders.aspx.



Agriculture Reading Series to Appear on ICN

Teachers can sign-up for these ICN sessions presented by members of the Iowa Ag Awareness Coalition. To register, please visit www.k12connections.iptv.org.

Adventure in Ag Reading: Welcome to Our Farm

March 14, 2008

Registration deadline: March 7
Audience: Grades PreK-2

Adventure in Ag Reading: A Garden in a Glove

April 18, 2008

Registration deadline: April 11
Audience: Grades PreK-2

Adventure in Ag Reading: I Drive a Tractor

May 4, 2008

Registration deadline: April 25
Audience: Grades PreK-2

Confirmed classrooms receive a free book!

Ag Related Days ...

... serve as a platform to get agriculture into the classroom!

February 3-9 Food Check-Out Week

For more information: www.fb.org

March 4-10 Agricultural Safety Awareness Week

For more information: www.agsafetynow.com

March 16-22 National Ag Week (Ag Day is March 20)

For more information: www.agday.org

April 6-12 Explore Ag Careers Week (source: Chases Calendar of Events)

For related educational materials, contact the IFBF AITC program.

April 6-12 National Garden Week (source: Chases Calendar of Events)

For related educational materials, contact the IFBF AITC program.

April 13-19 National Environmental Education Week

For more information: www.eeweek.org

April 22 Earth Day

For related educational materials, contact the IFBF AITC program.

It's not too late to promote the Ag in the Classroom educator ICN session!

January 17
3:45—4:45 p.m.

Registrants of this session will receive classroom lesson plans and classroom resources (such as videos, CD/DVDs, student materials).

Sign-up through Iowa Public Television K-12 Connections program at www.k12connections.iptv.org