



Be Aware of New York Agriculture Contest Teacher Guide

The objective of the “Be Aware of New York Agriculture” Contest is to educate students about where food comes from and the importance of agriculture to everyone’s lives. This guide suggests resources and ideas to help you prepare students for the contest.

General resources:

NY Agriculture in the Classroom www.cerp.cornell.edu/aitc

Contest information, lessons, ag literacy quizzes, book lists, links to other resources, Empire Educator newsletters, and more.

Ag in the Classroom National Resource Directory www.cerp.cornell.edu/directory/

A web-based database searchable by subject, topic, grade level, and media type to help identify books and instructional resources and their sources.

New York Farm Bureau Foundation for Agricultural Education <http://www.nyfbfoundation.org/>

The Foundation’s mission is to inform and educate all New Yorkers regarding agriculture and to increase understanding between the farm and non-farm public.

National Ag in the Classroom www.agclassroom.org

Lessons, teacher resources, “Kids Zone” and “Teen Scene” sites, and links to the AITC National Resource Directory and other resources.

Food & Fiber Systems Literacy http://food_fiber.okstate.edu

Good introductory Language Arts lessons on the Food & Fiber Systems Literacy website:

K and 1st Grade: **Where is Agriculture?** http://food_fiber.okstate.edu/k1la.htm

2nd and 3rd Grades: **Who Cares for the Land?** http://food_fiber.okstate.edu/k1la.htm

4th and 5th Grades: **A Day Without Agriculture** http://food_fiber.okstate.edu/45la.htm

6th Grade: **The Farmer Cares for the Land** http://food_fiber.okstate.edu/68la.htm

Other K-8 Food & Fiber Systems lessons are available for different subject areas at

http://food_fiber.okstate.edu/curriclm.htm

Award winning “**On the Farm**” videos (Chris Fesko Enterprises) demonstrate farm life. <http://www.fesko.com/videos.html>

Suggestions for connecting to the community to learn about agriculture in conjunction with the contest:

- Contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension office in your county to see if an extension educator can visit your class, help identify a farmer to come and talk to your class, or suggest a farm to visit. Check the CCE site at http://www.cce.cornell.edu/in_your_community.php to locate your local CCE office.
- Contact the New York Farm Bureau Promotion & Education committee in your county and ask for help arranging for a farmer to come and speak to your class, or for help arranging a visit to a local farm. For information on your county Farm Bureau see www.nyfb.org/counties.htm or contact the appropriate field staff member www.nyfb.org/FieldStaff.htm

See reverse for project titles and examples of resources by grade level.

The information and links on this flyer are also available on the NY Ag in the Classroom website at

<http://cerp.cornell.edu/aitc/>

Pre-school: *My Favorite NY Farm Animal*, color drawing/painting on 8 1/2" by 11" paper.

- **"Baby Farm: Animals and Friends"** video (AITC National Resource Directory product #1058). This video presents the various animals that can be found on a farm.
- ***Cows on the Farm*** (#1200), ***Horses on the Farm*** (#1202), ***Chickens on the Farm*** (#1199), ***Sheep on the Farm*** (#1192), and ***Pigs on the Farm*** (#1201). This is a series of books that may help students select their favorite!

Kindergarten: *Me and the NY Foods I Like*, color drawing/painting on 8 1/2" by 11" paper showing your favorite food grown in New York State and yourself.

- ***Building a Healthy Me!*** provides easy-to-use lessons that support required components of Kindergarten curriculum with fun, hands-on student activities. (AITC National Resource Directory Product #1020)
- ***Color New York!*** activity booklet, provided by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The booklet guides students through different foods and products produced in New York State. PDF download is available at www.agmkt.state.ny.us (under "press and publications").

First Grade: *Milk: Where It Comes From and What Is Made With It*, color drawing/painting on 8 1/2" by 11" paper showing where milk comes from and a milk product or products.

- ***Vrrrooommm! Dairy Farming for Kids***, a video that explores the dairy industry from milk production to milk processing. (AITC National Resource Directory Product #1072)
- ***Hooray for Dairy Farming!*** a book that takes a look at the day-to-day world of a modern dairy farm showing how milk is produced, processed, and distributed. (AITC National Resource Directory Product #1170)
- www.moomilk.com is a great website to access a virtual tour that explains where milk comes from. The site also provides interactive quizzes and games.

Second Grade: *My Favorite New York Food and Where It Comes From*, color drawing/painting on 8 1/2" by 11" paper with a four-sentence paragraph on the theme.

- ***"From Milk to Ice Cream,"*** a book on how ice cream is made and where it comes from. (Product # 1205 AITC National Resource Directory). Other books in the same series are, ***"From Kernel to Corn," "From Shoot to Apple," "From Egg to Chicken," From Maple Trees to Maple Syrup"*** and ***"From Sheep to Sweater."***
- Cabot Cheese has fun Games & Activities about dairy products <http://www.cabotcheese.com/> (Education link)
- NYAITC WebQuest <http://cerp.cornell.edu/aic/BeAwareInfo.asp>

Third and Fourth Grade

Third Grade: *New York Agriculture*, color drawing/painting on 8 1/2" by 11" paper with a one-sentence slogan about NY agriculture.

Fourth Grade: *New York Agriculture*, poem, either general or specific, focusing on New York Agriculture

- www.agmkt.state.ny.us/agfacts.html to learn about many agricultural commodities produced in New York State.
- www.nass.usda.gov/ny (Go to Top 10 Commodities and Kids Page)
- NYAITC WebQuest <http://cerp.cornell.edu/aic/BeAwareInfo.asp>

Fifth and Sixth Grade:

Fifth Grade: *Why I need New York Agriculture*, essay on how agriculture in New York impacts the student's life every day.

Sixth Grade: *Products of New York Agriculture*, 11" by 17" poster that promotes the products of New York State.

- www.mofb.org/webquest/wq11a.htm to access a WebQuest that will help the student answer why agriculture is so important.
- NYAITC WebQuest <http://cerp.cornell.edu/aic/BeAwareInfo.asp>
- **Ten Things Kids Want to Know About Farming** (Product #867 AITC National Resource Directory). This video of field trips to farm and ranch locations offers students a firsthand view of what happens to produce the food and clothing we use everyday. Set of lesson plans also available.