



DUBUQUE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Agriculture in the Classroom



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023 Program Year



Our Mission



The Dubuque County Education Outreach program strives to inform consumers of all ages about the impact and importance of agriculture in their everyday lives through community outreach efforts.



A Message From Our Education Outreach Coordinator

It is hard to believe that another school year has come and gone. It seems like they only keep going faster and faster. Looking back on this year, it was another wonderful year of growth in our program, making new connections with area teachers and schools, implementing new lessons, and a whole lot of hands-on learning.

We are so lucky to have such great, caring, passionate teachers in our schools. They truly care about their students and want to give them a variety of experiences to help them make connections to the world around them. Thank you for all that you do! Please know that we are very appreciative of you seeing the value of our programming!

As we begin looking towards the next school year, we are excited to make connections with more classrooms, implement even more new programs, and see continue growth in our program. We appreciate your support and are looking forward to another great year!

Sincerely,

Rachel Ambrosy

Education Outreach Coordinator





Classroom Programming

It was definitely a busy year with 126 classroom visits completed in over 18 different schools in Dubuque County!

Lesson and programs this year covered the topics of animal science, plant science, history of agriculture, technology, careers, and so much more! All lessons align with the Iowa Core and are engaging and hands-on.

This year we once again held special programming in March for Read Across Iowa and held Read With a Farmer for National Agriculture Week. These special programs are great ways to show how agriculture is important for all aspects of our lives.



Community Outreach

We had the pleasure and honor of once again partnering with the Dubuque County Library District to bring programming to their children and teen programs this past summer. Beeswax lavender lip balm was a big hit!



We also enjoyed programming with Key West Early Childhood Center and Dubuque Y School Age Summer Care programs. Topics covered included how weather effects farms and farmers and school lunches around the world.

We enjoyed our time at the 2023 Dubuque Area STEM Festival in April. Our topic this year was the Living Seed Necklace. We interacted with over 200 youth and it was a great event!



Chick Hatching Program

The 2023 Chick Hatching Program was another great success! Students enjoyed getting to see the life cycle of the chick happen right in front of their eyes and get exposure to agriculture all at the same time!

This year's participants were:

- Mr. Matt Kennedy, Dyersville Elementary
- Mrs. Kayla Kluesner, Farley Elementary
- Mr. Mark Hefel, Eisenhower Elementary
- Mrs. Jessica Weiland, Sageville Elementary

This program impacted over 100 students.



Special Thanks

Our program would not be successful without the support of many individuals and businesses. The Dubuque County Farm Bureau Education Outreach Program would like to thank the following:

- Dubuque County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for seeing the value in agricultural literacy and supporting us in our endeavors.
- Dubuque County Farm Bureau Young Farmers for planning and holding a successful benefit concert for our programs.
- Three Rivers FS, MidWest One Bank, and Silver Top, LLC. for their generous donations to our program.
- The administration, teachers, students, libraries, daycares and others who welcomed us into their classrooms.

Words cannot express how fortunate we are to live in an area that is so supportive of education and the telling of today's modern agricultural production story.



MidWestOne
Bank.



Silver Top, LLC.

How to Support Our Mission

Thanks to a partnership with Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque acting as our fiscal agent, you can make a tax deductible donation to our program to continue to provide free programs to our area schools, daycares, libraries and more!

You can send your tax-deductible donation to:

Community Foundation of Great Dubuque
700 Locust St. Ste. 190
Dubuque, Iowa 52001



In the memo line of the check, please put Farm Bureau.

Thank you for your support of our program!



Agriculture in the Classroom Resources

- **FarmChat:** Bring the farm to the classroom! Using technology such as Skype, Google Hangouts, and Face Time, take a virtual field trip of a modern farm or other agriculture business without having to worry about weather and transportation.
- **Teacher Supplement Grants:** The Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation in partnership with the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation offers grants up to \$200 to support the integration of agriculture into regular classroom instruction or after school programs with an academic focus. Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher Supplement Grants are designed to initiate new projects or expand existing projects that promote agriculture literacy. Grants can be used to fund innovative lessons, activities, classroom resources, guest speakers, outreach programs, field trips and other projects. Applications are available in the fall.
- **Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation:** Looking for some great hands-on lessons? Books? Kits? Then Iowa Ag Literacy Foundation is the answer. Their lessons are tied into the Iowa CORE and they have an expansive lending library of DVDs, books and kits that are available for check-out. They also offer links to grants and other publications. Check them out at www.iowaagliteracy.org
- **National Agriculture in the Classroom:** This site offers a MASSIVE collection of lesson plans, multimedia links, book recommendations, and activities that you can adapt for your classroom. You can find them at www.agclassroom.org
- **Classroom Visits:** We would love to come in and do an interactive lesson with your students. All visits are **FREE** of cost to you and your school. We have volunteers who enjoy coming in and teaching real-life applications of what they are learning in the classroom. We can create lessons to correlate what students are learning in the classroom as well.
- **Website:** Your go-to source for links, upcoming events, information and much more! Find us at <https://dubuqueaitc.weebly.com/>

***Want more information? Contact Education Outreach
Coordinator Rachel Ambrosy at
Rachel.Ambrosy@ifbf.org.***

We are here as a tool to serve you anyway we can. We are available to all grade levels & subject areas for schools in Dubuque County.