

DUBUQUE COUNTY EDUCATION OUTREACH NEWSLETTER



DUBUQUE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Agriculture in the Classroom

April 2024 Issue 54

The Final Countdown

As crazy as it sounds, we are starting look ahead to next year's programming! In this month's newsletter we have included a form for teachers to fill out if they are interested in monthly programming for the next school year. This does not commit you to anything but helps us make plans for staffing next year.

As we begin to get into the final weeks of the school year, please let us know if there is anything we can assist you with. We have open dates in April and May if there is a specific standard or lesson you would like us to present. I know with warmer weather it gets harder to hold students' attention so a guest speaker can be a welcome change of pace.

Thank you for all that you do for your students. I truly believe we have the best teachers and students in our county, and I am fortunate to work with you all!

Rachel Ambrosy
Education Outreach Coordinator
Dubuque County Farm Bureau
Rachel.Ambrosy@ifbf.org
(563)556-5275 ext.306



April Featured Resources

Click on the resource to go directly there!

Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation

- [Farmers & Gardeners \(2nd-3rd\)](#)
- [From Plants and Animals \(PK-2nd\)](#)

National Agriculture in the Classroom

- [Food & Farm Sky Tour \(3rd-12th\)](#)
- [Stacking Up Milk and Milk Substitutes \(9th-12th\)](#)



Follow us on Facebook at Dubuque County Farm Bureau Education Outreach to stay up to date on grants, contests, resources and more!

What's Inside:

- What Have We Been Up To?
- Monthly Programming Interest Form for Next Year
- IALF Teacher Workshops
- Registration for 2024 National Ag in the Classroom Conference Open
- 2024 NAITC Classroom Resource Grant

Interested in Monthly Programming for Next School Year?

Are you interested in having Agriculture in the Classroom come to your classroom monthly next school year?

If so, please take a minute to complete the interest form by going to <https://forms.gle/M4fCAULtNDC3WH7G8>. Filling out the form helps us determine staffing needs for the next year and doesn't commit you to anything.

With great growth in our program this past year, we want to ensure that we can form a schedule that fits everyone needs. Rachel will be reaching out in August to schedule a date and time (ex: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m.) for monthly programming next school year. Adjustments can be made depending on the school calendar. Visits will begin in September and go through May.

As always, visits will be available upon request as well. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rachel at rachel.ambrosy@ifbf.org.

Check
this
out

Registration Open for 2024 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference



Registration is open for the 2024 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference that is taking place in Salt Lake City, Utah June 24-27.

This event offers great guest speakers, engaging tours, and hands-on workshops to help bring agriculture literacy into your classroom.

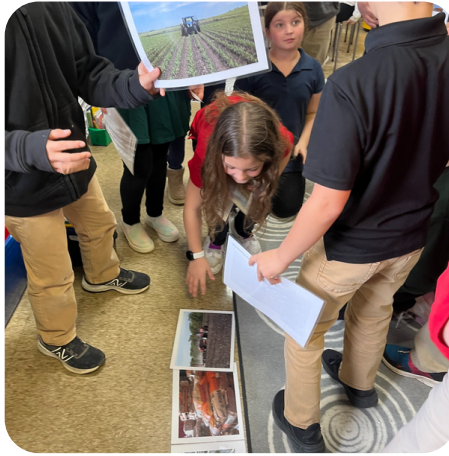
For more information on this conference including lodging, detailed agenda and the registration form, please visit <https://na.eventscloud.com/website/69623/home/>.

HELLO
SPRING

What Have We Been Up To?



This month's PK-2nd grade monthly program focused on life bracelets and the things needed in order to sustain life.



Students in 3rd-5th grade learned about the steps and careers needed for the production of ethanol, hamburgers, and cereal in the Tassel to Tank lesson



Hatching kits were delivered to our 1st round classrooms!



We celebrated Read Across Iowa with special programs! PK-2nd graders learned about dairy production and made butter and 3rd-5th graders learned about Iowa's juice grape production



To celebrate National Agriculture Week, several farmers visited some local schools to read a story and share about their farm. Some farmers even brought along a friend!



Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation Releases Summer PD Schedule

Each summer IALF partners with Local Hosts to offer two-day professional development opportunities for educators. The two-day in-person workshop is FREE to attend and includes on-site tours, hands-on activities, resource materials, lunches and more! These fast-paced professional developments give teachers, extension personnel, and others who educate youth the skills they need to implement many of the Iowa Core science and social studies standards. Using agriculture as a lens to teach provides students real-world connections and relevance to classroom material. Participants will leave the workshop with instructional strategies, lessons, and activities that can be immediately implemented into their classroom with little or no additional effort. Through IALF's partnership through the AEAs license renewal (\$35) and graduate credit (\$130) options are available for the courses.



This year, the IALF was selected as a STEM Scale-Up Program provider by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council. Summer workshops occurring from July 15-October 30 will be part of the STEM Scale-Up award program. Registration for all courses will open in late March-early April.

June 13-14: Oskaloosa, IA
June 18-19: Fort Dodge, IA
July 16-17: Sioux City, IA
July 18-19: Des Moines Metro
July 23-24: Coralville, IA
July 30-31: Mason City, IA
August 1-2: Waterloo, IA
August 6-7: Irwin, IA
October 25-26: TBD

NAITC Classroom Resource Grant Available

The National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO), with funding from USDA-NIFA, is pleased to provide a grant opportunity to provide pre-K to 12th grade general education teachers access to resources and materials to increase the ag literacy efforts within their classrooms.

This year's grant will provide up to \$500 to purchase materials and resources to supplement the ag literacy education efforts within preK-12th grade classrooms. For the purpose of incorporating agriculture into their core content areas, grant funds may be used to purchase resources and materials, including ag-accurate books, from one, or both, of the following sources:

- [Classroom Store](#)
- [American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture Store](#)

Grant Qualifications:

- State-certified classroom teacher
- PreK-12th grade teacher
- Currently employed by a public or private school

The 2024 NAITCO Classroom Resource Grant applications are now open. The application deadline is April 15, 2024. Applicants will be notified by late April/early May, with final reports due no later than December 31, 2024.

The application and more information can be found by going to <https://agclassroom.org/teacher/grants/>