

St. Clair County Ag in the Classroom

University of Illinois Extension
621 South Belt West Belleville, IL 62220
Phone: 618.236.4172 Fax: 618.236.9416

TO: Educators

FROM: Christina Frierdich

Ag in the Classroom 4th Grade Program

Dear Educators,

St. Clair County Ag in the Classroom offers a 4th grade program focusing on different aspects of agriculture in our everyday lives. The goal is for students to enhance their knowledge and better understand agriculture. The program is designed to focus on a different Ag topic each quarter. Each lesson will include a presentation and a hands-on project. The Learning Standard for each lesson is identified for your planning purpose.

For the first and second quarter, a choice may be made on which presentation best fits your curriculum. The “Cheeseburger – Where Does it Come From?” will focus on each part of the burger and where that part of the burger came from within St. Clair County by utilizing a map. The students will build their own edible hamburger out of cookies, coconut, and icing. The “Water Transportation” will focus on the local waterways and the barges that navigate it. An activity with ‘barges’ and commodities will be performed within groups. The students will use the scientific method to determine if the barges were loaded properly.

The third and fourth quarter, a choice may be made as well. “Its Soy Incredible” will introduce the soybean. Parts of the bean, products and facts about the soybean will be concentrated on following an activity called the Beanie Baby or the Germinating Soybean. The students will observe the bean as it begins to germinate. “Why is Dairy Farming Important?” Students will gain insight about Dairy farming. The students will have the opportunity to make their own butter too!

Activity	Illinois Learning Standard
Cheeseburger – Where Does it Come From? (Utilizing the US road atlas)	12 B. 2b 15 A. 2a 17 A. 2
Water Transportation (Loading barges with Commodities)	13 B. 2e 16 E. 2a 17 C. 2b
It’ Soy Incredible (Beanie Baby)	12 B. 2b 12 E. 2c 13 B. 2c
Why is Dairy Farming Important? (Make Butter)	12 B. 2b 12 C. 2b 12 D. 2b 13 B. 2b

Sincerely,

Christina Frierdich

St. Clair County Ag in the Classroom

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Phone: 618.236.4172 Fax: 618.236.9416

Please complete form and fax/mail or email ASAP

Contact Person: (For schools with multiple 4 th grade classrooms, please designate 1 contact person)	School:
<i>Contact Person's Email:</i> (This is a preferred method of communication)	Fax Number: (Schedule notices will be faxed or emailed)
Number of 4 th grade classrooms:	
Preferred day(s) of the week and time:	School start time: Recess time: Lunch time: School end time: Dates of any field trips or testing:
Please block 50 minute time slots for each class. This will include set-up, presentation, and clean-up time.	

Thank you!

*Contact person will be responsible for passing on information and scheduling. A schedule for the 2009 – 2010 school year will be sent as soon as possible to the contact person. After receiving the schedule, please review for any possible conflicts so changes can be made as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Christina Frierdich
Ag in the Classroom Program Coordinator

St. Clair Ag in the Classroom 2009 – 2010 Teacher Workshops

ISAT's 10 Minutes a Day!!

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 4 – 6 pm

Ag in the Classroom has developed a booklet of activities to help students prepare for ISAT testing. It gives teachers 20 weeks' worth of review materials. The activities are to take not longer than 10 minutes a day and use the Ag Mags as a resource. Come and get a look at these activities that will help students prepare for ISAT's.

mAGic Kits

Tuesday, October 20, 2009 4 – 6 pm

Bring agriculture to your classroom with mAGic Kits. Magic kits are developed to meet learning standards. Each kit includes the necessary components to help students in grades 4 to 8 develop skills in math, English language arts, social studies, and science. All kits include lesson plans and supplies for activities and exercises. Come browse through our kits and see what will best fit your curriculum.

Thanksgiving/Christmas

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 4 – 6 pm

Thankful turkey, 3 sisters tambourine, Squanto's brown bag activity book and 3 – D evergreen trees, all of these are great activities students enjoy around the holidays. While engaging in activities the students will learn the importance of all topics. This workshop will be hands on and will introduce other materials that can be incorporated into the lesson. Happy Holidays!

Poultry

Thursday, February 11, 2010 4 – 6 pm

Teachers have the opportunity to hatch chickens in their classrooms in the spring but using an incubator can be very tricky. Learn how to properly use an incubator and equipment to insure you get the best results. During this workshop we will go over how to use the incubator and different variables that may cause a bad hatch. If you plan on checking out an incubator for use in the spring this **WORKSHOP IS MANDATORY**.

The Very Hungry Illinois Caterpillar

Tuesday, March 16, 2010 4 – 6 pm

This activity is based on the book The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. The hungry Illinois caterpillar eats through Illinois crops such as soybeans, pumpkins and many more. Come and make your own Hungry Caterpillar book. This is an activity that students can make while learning about caterpillars and Illinois crops.

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP INFORMATION

- CPDUs will be offered for each workshop.
- Free resources will be given
- ISAT 4th grade
- mAGic Kits 4th through 8th
- Thanksgiving/Christmas 4th grade
- Poultry Pre-K through 8th
- The Very Hungry Illinois Caterpillar Pre-K through 8th
- All workshops will be held at 621 South Belt West Belleville, IL in the University of Illinois Extension conference room.
- Registration Deadline for workshops:
 - ISAT Wednesday, September 9th
 - mAGic Kits Wednesday, September 14th
 - Thanksgiving/Christmas Thursday, November 5th
 - Poultry Friday, February 5th
 - The Very Hungry Illinois Caterpillar Wednesday, March 10th

- **Registration information can be mailed to:**

University of Illinois Extension
Ag in the Classroom
621 South Belt West
Belleville, IL 62220

- If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Christina Frierdich at 618.236.4172 or frierdcm@illinois.edu

School _____ Grade _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Workshops I wish to attend (Check all that apply):

“ISAT” September 15, 2009

“mAGic Kits” October 20, 2009

“Thanksgiving/Christmas” November 11, 2009

“Poultry” February 11, 2010

“The Very Hungry Illinois Caterpillar” March 16, 2010

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Please complete form and fax/mail or email ASAP

Remember: You can choose between two presentations for the first and second quarters and the third and fourth quarters.

PLEASE CIRCLE THE PRESENTATION YOU WOULD LIKE PRESENTATED DURING THE QUARTER LISTED.

FIRST QUARTER	SECOND QUARTER	THIRD QUARTER	FOURTH QUARTER
CHEESEBURGER	CHEESEBURGER	SOYBEANS	SOYBEANS
WATER TRANSPORTAION	WATER TRANSPORTATION	DAIRY	DAIRY

Teacher's name: _____

School: _____