

Coordinator's Report
Ag in the Classroom—St. Clair County
October 2007

1. This month we finished up the introductory unit and moved on to talking about products from corn—including plastics, polymers, and fibers. I especially like doing this presentation. It really brings home the science involved in new careers in agriculture, too. (One girl looked at the red cob and asked me if it was blood.)
2. The three-day Illinois River Conference in Peoria was a HUGE boost to my knowledge of soil and water conservation, river navigation, and the carp problem. We toured projects in the Illinois watershed and heard world-class experts talk about the watershed's history and future. Outstanding!
3. Broad Hollow Grange had me speak about ag transportation at their October 10 meeting. This was my first appearance at this grange, but I saw many familiar faces. Folks are always amazed at the efficiency of shipping by barge.
4. I had a laugh at Summerfield School. Though they are one of my regular AITC schools, I went there to teach them the importance of handwashing. One kid listened for a while and said, "Can't we just talk about agriculture?"
5. On 15 October, the District Five group met in Mt. Vernon to learn more about the activities in the new Illinois Magic Kit. I think I'll use this kit for my presentation at Teachers Institute.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Tribbett
Program Coordinator