

2007 AITC Teacher Mini-Grant Recipients

Teacher: Brenda Gienau- Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Agriculture Story Hour
Description: The FFA chapter will conduct four story hour presentations at the Birnamwood Public Library. Children of the community will be invited to listen to agricultural related stories and make a craft. The FFA will purchase craft materials to enhance the book's activities and develop questions to assess comprehension of the information presented in the story.

Teacher: Kevin Kuske- Redeemer Lutheran School, Green Bay
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Bovine Birthing
Description: The project will record the birthing process of a cow and calf. The tape and lesson plan will also have information about dairy cows, how milk is produced and the importance of agriculture in Wisconsin and our nation. The lesson plan will also cover other dairy products such as cheese and butter.

Teacher: Paul Jakupciak- Osceola High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Dairy Days at the Elementary Schools
Description: Osceola FFA members will sign up to bring in animals to the elementary school and develop a 90 minute program designed for grades K-2. The elementary students rotate between various stations. The project helps both high school and elementary students gain awareness of agriculture.

Teacher: Keven Busse- Omro High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Food for America
Description: The Omro FFA Food for America program helps to make students in fourth grade aware of agriculture. They will discuss where food comes from, the importance of the dairy industry and food processing, by-products, and changes in agriculture. A farm tour is also included in the unit.

Teacher: Gary Von Ruden- Brookwood High School, Ontario
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Food- No Longer a Mystery
Description: The Brookwood FFA members will work with 3rd grade students to teach them the importance of agriculture, where their food comes from and conduct hands-on activities. The students will rotate between four groups and will be able to see animals such as horses, dairy, rabbits, sheep llamas and dogs.

Teacher: Sheila Dipprey- Almena Elementary School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: From Seeds to Table
Description: First grade students will be able to understand seed germination, plant growth, pollination and production of fruit or vegetables in this classroom activity. Utilizing fish tanks, grow lights and field trips, students will be able to better understand how food is produced and how it gets to their grocery stores and homes.

Teacher: Diane Cherney- Holy Rosary Elementary School, New Holstein
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Hello Chicks!
Description: Each second grade student will be able to understand the process and development of a chick from an embryo to a fully-grown chick. The students will be proficient in using proper terms and gain an understanding of the egg industry and its importance to their local area. Working with the science curriculum, the students will also study animal groups and their characteristics.

Teacher: Bill Urban- Pittsville High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Introducing Agri-Science Labs into the Classroom
Description: Utilizing the "Agri-Science Lab Units CD" which focuses on horticulture, the students will be able to better understand the connection between agriculture and science. The units will enable the instructor to expand the hands-on activities and labs offered in the classroom and help students understand emerging technologies in agriculture.

Teacher: Melissa Barkley- Franklin Elementary School, Wausau
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Life on the Farm Literature
Description: This project will allow small groups of students to read and study what life would be like on the farm. Students would become "experts" on one type of farming and share their knowledge with other students. All students would learn basic facts about four different types of farms (pig, dairy, cattle and crop) from the books they read.

Teacher: Jim Favreau- Ithaca High School, Richland Center
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Look Mom, No Soil!
Description: The goal of this lesson is to allow kindergarten students the opportunity to plant, germinate and harvest green leaf vegetables. With the help of high school FFA and agriculture students, the kindergarten students will be able to explore the concepts of hydroponics and grow vegetables differently than in a traditional garden. The students will be able to use the new school greenhouse and the school/community garden.

Teacher: Jill Jones- Markesan High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: PALS Activity
Description: The Markesan FFA Chapter will introduce two projects to second grade students. The projects, "A Day in the Life of a Farmer" and "Adopt-A-Calf" are simple, yet fun ways for students to learn about farms. The units will learn about how a farm operates and will be able to follow the growth of a dairy calf by monthly visits via pictures and reports. At the end of the school year, a field trip to the farm will conclude the project.

Teacher: Rick Henningfeld – Big Foot High School, Walworth
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: PALS Mentoring in Walworth Elementary Schools
Description: The Big Foot FFA members will develop a mentoring program that will use agriculture related activities to help build relationships with students that need positive role models in their lives. Projects such as Wisconsin Fast Plants, bottle biology, and plant and animal care will enable the older students to teach scientific information to the younger students as well as serve as positive role models to the youth.

Teacher: Jerry Wendt- Stoughton High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Pizza in a Suitcase
Description: This project will enable students to demonstrate an understanding of the scientific principles and societal implications involved in the production and processing of food. A "suitcase" will include materials needed to create a wooden pizza and toppings as well as curriculum materials that will help students understand where the various parts of a pizza come from, how biotechnology can enhance food production, and the diversity of our food industry.

Teacher: Lisa Barta- Rice Lake Middle School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Rice Lake FFA PALS
Description: The FFA PALS program is a project that pairs FFA members with elementary students to teach them about agriculture, gain self-awareness and leadership skills, and get excited about their school and community. The program uses monthly after-school agricultural activities to develop teamwork, community service and leadership skills.

Teacher: Lisa Konkel- Big Foot High School, Walworth
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Tiller for Atrium
Description: The agriculture education department students will transform the school atrium into a learning lab for landscaping, gardening and production row crops. The high school students will develop designs, activities and informational signs to help educate younger students, the school body, and community members about the plant growth, landscaping and other plant related information.

Teacher: Mike Krull- Cambridge High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Upgrade of School Farm
Description: The school district's farm is a hands-on laboratory for all grade levels and is managed by the agriculture education department. The goal of this project is to get more students involved with the farm by developing a hog project. Equipment, supplies and tools are needed to have sows farrow at the farm and then properly care for the piglets. .

Teacher: Jodi Rogahn- Burlington High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Urban Agriculture Day
Description: The Burlington FFA members will design and implement an "Urban Agriculture Day" for elementary-aged students. The objective is to expose elementary students to urban-agricultural topics such as hydroponics, biotechnology, vermi-composting and pet care. The event will include eight exploratory stations that students will rotate through during twenty minute intervals.

Teacher: Gordie Gasch- Brillion High School
Funds Awarded: \$100
Project Title: Wisconsin Farm Products
Description: This project involves the development of a PowerPoint presentation for fourth grade students about Wisconsin Farm Products. The agriculture education department would utilize CamtasiaStudio software to develop this user-friendly CD with information about Wisconsin agriculture. It would also link Ag lessons to the school web page that can be accessed by all teachers in the district.