



2011-2012 Essay Contest Topic

“Why crops and plants are important to Wisconsin agriculture”

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau - Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest helps students in 4th and 5th grades learn more about Wisconsin agriculture, Wisconsin agribusiness and how they are connected to agriculture. Last year we had about 1,953 students participate in the essay contest.

This year's topic will be “Why crops and plants are important to Wisconsin agriculture”. Our 2012 Book of the Year will be Cris Peterson's book “Seed Soil Sun”. The book and essay topic will allow us to educate students about the connection with the soil to growing crops that feed our animals and food for humans. We will again link the book, the accompanying lessons that we write for our Book of the Year, various Wisconsin educational resources, and other Ag in the Classroom lessons into resources for teachers, students and volunteers to use in promoting and preparing essays.

Essay Contest Details:

- The essay is promoted in grade schools and home school networks throughout the state by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and county Farm Bureaus starting in September.
- The essays must be between 100 to 300 words in length and are judged on content, grammar and spelling and neatness.
- We will keep the deadline schedule with essays being due to the county programs by April 1.
- The nine District winners (one will also be the State winner) each receive a classroom presentation in late May that includes a lesson, prizes and recognition, and a Wisconsin snack.

Watch the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website for more details, lesson plans and other resources. All information should be posted by mid-September!

For more information, contact Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com or 608.828.5719.