

Ag in the Classroom News Release
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

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May 21, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fountain City Student is Ag in the Classroom Essay Winner

MADISON – Carter Schmitt, a fourth grade student from Fountain City, is the statewide winner of the Ag in the Classroom essay contest. Wisconsin fourth and fifth graders were asked to write a 100 to 300 word essay with the theme, “Wisconsin farms help me eat a healthy lunch by.”

Carter is the son of Brian and Wendy Schmitt and Beth Stryeski is his fourth grade teacher at Fountain City Elementary School.

A total of 1,996 Wisconsin students wrote essays for the competition sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation, Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, Frontier FS and We Energies.

The finalist from each of Wisconsin Farm Bureau’s nine districts across the state will receive a certificate, educational resources for their teacher and a classroom presentation about Wisconsin agriculture. This year’s finalists include:

Elizabeth Cullen, Tess Corners Elementary School, Muskego, Waukesha County (District 1)

Sarah Hegenow, Rio Elementary School, Columbia County (District 2)

Lauryn Bunn, Fennimore Elementary School, Grant County (District 3)

Carter Schmitt, Cochrane Fountain City Elementary School, Fountain City, Buffalo County (District 4)

Mason Johnson, Wonewoc Elementary School, Wonewoc, Juneau County (District 5)

Aliza Jacobs, Luxemburg Casco Elementary School, Luxemburg, Kewaunee County (District 6)

Eden Witt, St. Anthony School, Oconto County (District 7)

Ellie Hartson, Maple Grove School, Lincoln County (District 8)

Tyler Laird, Cornell Elementary School, Chippewa County (District 9)

[Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom](#) program provides teachers and K-12 students with an understanding of how their food is produced. The program seeks to work within existing curricula to provide basic information on our nation's largest industry: agriculture. Wisconsin's Ag in the Classroom program is carried out by a network of local educators, volunteers and representatives from agricultural organizations and businesses. The goal of the program is to help students gain a greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society, so that they may become citizens who support wise agricultural policies.

The Winning Essay:

Wisconsin farms help me eat a healthy lunch by...

**By Carter Schmitt
Cochrane Fountain City Elementary, Fountain City**

I live on a farm near Fountain City in the town of Cross. We have a lot of different farms in our area that raise and grow a lot of our healthy products we eat.

We have a lot of dairy farms in our area. They give a lot of our schools dairy products like milk, yogurt, cheese, butter, and my favorite, ice cream.

We also have a lot of beef farmers. They give us all of the meats we eat at our school lunch. They give us hamburger and it fill our tacos nicely.

We unfortunately don't have a lot of hog farmers in our area. But I sure like pork chops and bacon.

In our region, we have a lot of vegetables grown. They are always fresh and good. They grow green beans, sweet corn, and peas.

We are so lucky because we have a lot of fruits in our area. We have apples, strawberries, blueberries, and raspberries. The fruits we have are fresh and in my opinion, they are the best.

On our farm we grow corn, soybeans, alfalfa, and oats. We also raise chickens for Gold 'n Plump. Our chicken is very tasty and healthy.

These are some of the ways our farmers from our local area help us with our great school lunches.

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