



2018-19 Essay Contest for 4th and 5th Grade Students Presented by Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom

Making it happen at the Farmers' Market

This year's essay contest topic is "Making it happen at the Farmers' Market." Our 2019 Book of the Year is "**Fresh-Picked Poetry**" by Michelle Schaub. The book and essay topic allow students to explore Farmers' markets from a variety of perspectives- the Farmers' preparation for the market, the people attending and buying products, the variety of products available, and other happenings at the market. All rules, promotional materials, county Farm Bureau essay contest coordinator's info, lessons and activities and other resources related to the essay contest and book program can be found at www.wisagclassroom.org.

Contest Rules:

- The essay contest is open to fourth- and fifth- grade students in public, private and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs are also encouraged to participate.
- Essays must be handwritten in ink **or** be computer generated. They must be single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper.
- The essay must be between 100 to 300 words in length.
- Essays will be judged on content (50 points), grammar and spelling (25 points) and originality and creativity (25 points).
- Essays must include: student's name, grade level, parent's name, teacher's name, school name and address, school phone number, teacher's email address and county on the back of the essay. Please do not identify the student on the front side.
- **Entry deadline - Postmarked by April 1, 2019** and sent to:

County Farm Bureau Essay Contest Coordinator:

To find the address of your county Farm Bureau essay contest coordinator, visit wisagclassroom.org and look under the essay contest information.

or

Wisconsin Farm Bureau-Ag in the Classroom

P.O. Box 5550
Madison, WI 53705

Phone: 608.828.5644
Email: darneson@wfbf.com

Contest Prizes:

- Nine district winners will be chosen. District and state winners will be announced in May 2019.
- Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation in May 2019 for their class, homeroom or home school group.
- A state winner will be chosen and will receive a special award.

The Agriculture in the Classroom essay contest is sponsored by We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation – Ag in the Classroom.



Return this form with essay **or** provide the same information on the back of each entry:

Student's name _____

Grade level _____

Parent's name (mom and dad) _____

Teacher's name _____

School name _____

School address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Teacher's email _____

School phone number _____

County _____ # of words _____

You can use the 2019 Book of the Year “**Fresh-Picked Poetry**” for ideas and perspectives you could cover. But that is not a requirement! Including poetry, as the book does, might be a fun way is acceptable but not required.

Because of the broad nature of this topic, students might consider, **but are not limited to**, some of these sub-topics as they write their essay:

- How farmers raise the products sold at the Farmers' markets.
- Focusing on the different products you can find at Farmers' markets. You may concentrate on your area, during various seasons, in other parts of the state, or in other parts of the country.
- How are Farmers' markets organized and what needs to be done by the vendors, promoters and customers?
- Visit a few Farmers' markets. What else happens at or during the market? Is there entertainment? Educational events? Are they part of another community event?
- What else, besides vegetables and fruit, might you find at a Farmers' market? You might expand on that.
- Interview producers who sell at Farmers' markets and tell their story! How did they decide to sell that way? What type of farm do they have? What is their background?

Use your imagination and creativity to think of other items to write about!

On the Web

National Ag in the Classroom matrix- search for Farmers' Market and School Garden lessons. www.agclassroom.org

“**Fresh-Picked Poetry**” Educator's Guide- Use author Michelle Schaub's Educator's Guide for the book.

USDA Farm to School Programs-
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool/farm-school-resources>

DATCP Wisconsin Farm to School Program-
https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Growing_WI/FarmToSchool.aspx

Wisconsin Farmers Market Association- <http://www.wifarmersmarkets.org/>

Books

- “Fresh-Picked Poetry” by *Michelle Schaub*- Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom 2019 Book of the Year
- “How to Teach Nutrition to Kids” and “Nutrition Fun with Brocc & Roll” by Connie Liakos Evers, MS, RD
- “Fabulous Food- 25 Songs and Over 300 Activities for Young Children” by Pam Schiller
- *All About Farmers' Markets – A Teaching Guide for Classrooms, Camps, and Community Programs* by Peggy Sissel-Phelan, Ed.D.
- *Got Veggies? A youth garden-based nutrition and education curriculum by Community Groundworks.*
- Planning Curriculum in Nutrition- Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Questions? Contact Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom at 608.828.5644, email darneson@wfbf.com or look for us on the web at wisagclassroom.org.

