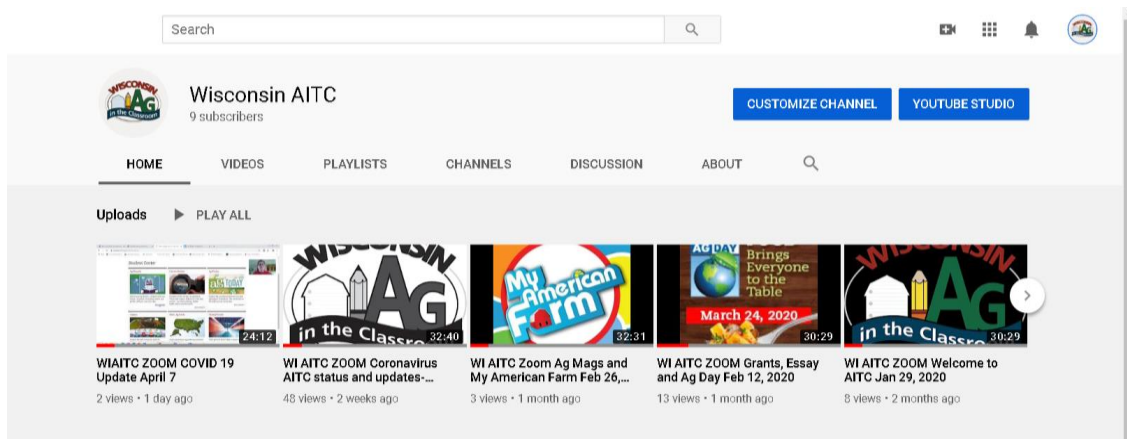




September 2020
Ag in the Classroom Newsletter for
our Ag in the Classroom Volunteers!

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Training Tuesdays

Each Tuesday we are posting a new video on the Wisconsin AITC YouTube channel featuring an educational resource. These are to help replace items that we'd be covering in our summer AITC trainings. You can go back to the channel at any time to view the videos.



Topics posted include:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUvmuVa0n1QIJdZhJkakm_9wPQw8zSehD

Overview of what AITC offers
FFA Officer Training
AFBFA resources
NAITC resources
My American Farm
WI Lesson plans
Soybean Science Kits
Volunteers and AITC
Journey 2050
Career resources
WI AITC Educational books
School- COVID style
2020-2021 Essay Contest
2020-2021 Book of the Year
Growing Wisconsin
UW Madison- OJ, West, Biotrek, Energy Institute
Collegiate Farm Bureau-FFA and AITC
Awards and applications



Outstanding Teacher Award Applications Available- <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/grants-awards/outstanding-teacher-award/>

Certified teachers currently integrating agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula in the pre-K through high school levels are eligible to apply. Applications may be from an individual teacher or a teaching team. Previous state winners and certified agricultural education instructors are not eligible. Teachers must utilize agricultural information or materials within the classroom curriculum in an effort to assist students in learning the importance of agriculture. Learning activities may include, but are not limited to, understanding agriculture's impact on personal lives, our national heritage, the environment or the economy. Innovative and interdisciplinary programs are encouraged.

The state winner(s) will receive a plaque and \$500 to be used for educational resources or towards attending the 2021 National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Des Moines, IA. The winner(s) will also represent Wisconsin as the state's nominee for the Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award Program presented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Ag in the Classroom program. For the application, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website. Applicants should download the form, complete the information and return four copies to Wisconsin Farm Bureau, PO Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705. The application must be postmarked by Oct. 15.

Please encourage the teachers you work with to apply. They are often too modest and don't apply for our Outstanding Teacher Award. We value all that our teachers do to incorporate agriculture into their curriculum, the partnerships they have with our volunteers or FFA chapters, and we want to recognize their efforts!



**[AFBFA White-Reinhardt Applications Available for 2021 National AITC Conference-
https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/ag-scholarships](https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/ag-scholarships)**

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is offering White-Reinhardt Scholarship opportunities to the 2021 National Ag in the Classroom Conference for full time educators and/or volunteers that actively participate in classroom ag literacy programs or events are now available. This scholarship program is to provide travel expense funds to attend the national conference and then use the information gained to expand their outreach to students regarding food, fiber and fuel. The conference draws more than 400 teachers, volunteers and people involved in agricultural literacy and offers workshops, tours, speakers, and hands-on learning opportunities. Online applications must be submitted by Oct. 15. More information and the registration link can be found at <https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/ag-scholarships>.

**[AFBFA White-Reinhardt Mini-Grant Applications for county Farm Bureau programs-
https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/wr-grants-home](https://www.agfoundation.org/projects/wr-grants-home)**

Due Oct. 15 for this cycle and April 15 for spring cycle

The White-Reinhardt Grant Program funds projects that will increase agricultural literacy. County and state Farm Bureaus may apply for **\$1,000 grants** for education programs for grades K-12 in order to initiate new ag literacy programs or expand existing programs. Organizations and individual schools can work with their local Farm Bureaus to apply. Grants are available on a competitive basis. The White-Reinhardt Fund for Education is a special project of the Foundation in cooperation with the AFB Women's Leadership Committee. It was established to honor two former chairs of that committee, Berta White and Linda Reinhardt, who were leaders in the national effort to improve agricultural literacy.

So much to share!

There is so much that has been coming out from various educational and commodity partners, National Ag in the Classroom, American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, and other programs and contacts. We share many of these with our daily Facebook posts on the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom page so I encourage you to "Like and Follow" that page. Here are just a few that have come!

Feeding Minds Press- <https://www.feedingmindspress.com/submissions>

This is a reminder for picture books submissions about food and farming. Some topics we are currently interested in include:

- Farmers' Markets
- Gardens/growing food at home
- Christmas Trees
- Cattle Ranching
- Cotton
- Wheat
- Life on a farm
- Food and science

However all topics agriculture are welcome! Please remember not to include talking animals, rural stereotypes or unsafe situations. Happy writing! ~The Feeding Minds Press Team

Energy Action Month – <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/KEEP/Pages/Student-Involvement/Energy-Action-Month.aspx>

This is a national campaign to raise awareness of the prevalence of energy in all parts of society – homes, schools, healthcare, food, transportation and even in the unbuilt environment of natural habitats. KEEP has partnered with state and national organizations to bring a variety of engagement opportunities in early autumn that help us build community while we continue to maintain safe distance during the Covid-2019 pandemic. Visit KEEP's [Energy Action page](#) for a list of events to participate in!

KidsGardening- <https://kidsgardening.org/lessons-to-grow-by/>

Lessons to Grow By is a FREE four-month program of weekly garden-themed lessons and activities for parents teaching at home, or for educators instructing via distance learning. These fun, engaging adventures are grouped around a monthly theme, featuring three hands-on activities for kids each week with supplemental suggested reading, videos, and more. Lessons to Grow By is aimed at learners in grades 3-5, but the activities can easily be adapted for younger or older audiences. Lessons to Grow By begins in September and is only available by subscription. New materials will be sent every Monday (for holidays, emails will be sent on Tuesday.) Add your name and email below in order to access these special learn-from-home lessons. You can sign up at any time to see past weeks' materials.

AFBFA's At Home Learning- <https://www.agfoundation.org/at-home-learning>

From the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture! Welcome to the At Home Learning Page! They are offering weekly ideas for at home learning about agriculture! These activities will all be free to access and share. The weekly activities do not build on each other, but are individual and can be done in any order. The activities in this section are best for grades K-5.

Other updates from AFBFA's Julia Recko, Education Outreach Director

1. At Home Learning Page to launch Monday, Sept. 21: <https://www.agfoundation.org/at-home-learning> These ideas will be updated weekly and do not follow one another – but can be done in any order.
2. [White-Reinhardt applications](#) for teachers to go to AITC conference are open.

3. [Kids Questions about Agriculture](#) - if students have questions about where their food comes from they can submit a question and we will try to find a farmer to answer it! Check out videos we already have on our [youtube channel here](#).
4. Reading Books Out loud

Here is a list of permission pages from some of the biggest children's book publishers and a few of our favorites ag books from them. **Always** double check where the book was published so you can be sure to follow the correct guidelines.

[Albert Whitman Permission Page](#)

- Pumpkin Countdown
- Apple Countdown
- Maple Syrup from the Sugar House
- Applesauce Day
- [PB&J Hooray!](#)
- The Very Oldest Pear Tree

[Boyd's Mill Kane Permission Page](#)

- [Full of Beans](#) & Other Peggy Thomas titles
- [Seed Soil Sun](#) & Other Cris Peterson titles

[Holiday House Permission Page](#)

- Gail Gibbons Books

[Penguin Random House Permission Page](#)

- [Apple Orchard Riddle](#)
- How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin

[Feeding Minds Press Permission Page](#)

- [Right This Very Minute](#)
- [Chuck's Ice Cream Wish](#)

[Candlewick Permission Page](#)

- [How Did that Get in my Lunchbox?](#)

[Macmillan Permission Page](#)

- [Time for Cranberries](#)
- [John Deere That's Who](#)

Apple Crunch 2020 Date: Thursday, October 8, 2020- <https://www.cias.wisc.edu/applecrunch/>
What is the Crunch? Celebrate [National Farm to School Month](#) by collectively purchasing and crunching into locally and regionally grown apples at NOON on Thursday, October 8. Then share photos from your Crunch on social media! Everyone is welcome to Crunch! Although we aim for a regional Crunch on Oct. 8, you are welcome to Crunch any day or time in October that works for you.

Who: K-12 schools, early care and education sites, hospitals, colleges and universities, farms, state and local agencies, non-profit organizations, local businesses, groups, and even households can register to Crunch this year! Anyone who wants to show support for local farmers and school food can join!

Where: Anyone across Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio can register to Crunch in 2020! Crunch from a socially distanced classroom, the apple orchard, Zoom, the school garden, home or any safe and creative place!

Register your Crunch today to receive the helpful Crunch Guide and special resources for crunching during COVID-19.

From AgroWorld- <https://agclassroom.org/agroworld/>

<https://www.common sense.org/education/top-picks/best-tools-for-virtual-and-distance-learning>
Looking for online learning tools? Browse [a list of distance learning tools](#) to communicate with families, create videos, offer virtual student discussions, assessments, lesson delivery and more.

Science, Technology, and Engineering



Apples and the Science of Genetic Selection eLesson

Guided from home, students will compare and contrast natural selection and artificial selection as they learn the history of the apple, how apples are propagated on farms, and how new varieties of apple are developed.



Farm Journal eLearning

See an overview of the U.S. agricultural system through a combination of click-through modules and videos to build background knowledge for science and social studies.



Algae Fuel Could Change the World

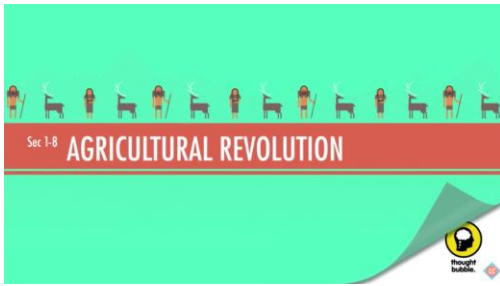
See how a motorcycle gets its energy from algae. How could this "green" technology revolutionize the transportation industry? Could algae provide a more sustainable fuel source than fossil fuels?

Social Studies: History, Economics and Geography



A Common Thread: The Significance of Wool in Medieval England

Discover how agriculture influenced and shaped culture, class and society during the middle ages.



The Agricultural Revolution

Investigate the dawn of human civilization and look into how people gave up hunting and gathering to become agriculturalists.



Organizing the Farm Worker Movement

Explore the early days of the United Farmworkers under the guidance of Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta.



Food Waste Infographic

Food is wasted because we put too much food on our plates. We buy food and don't eat it. This poster gives tips to consumers to reduce food waste.



Superfoods: Super Healthy or Super Hype?

Superfoods... are these magical foods going to swoop in to make us all healthier and stronger? Use this article to prompt critical thinking about this popular nutrition terminology.

Thank you for being a part of AgroWorld! Invite your friends and colleagues to [subscribe!](#)

Congratulations to these Wisconsin Teachers!

<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/white-reinhardt-resource-grant-recipients-chosen>

Lisa	Jagielo	Unity High School	Balsam Lake
Amy	Mather	Northern Hills Elementary	Onalaska
Kristina	Puntney	Baraboo High School	Baraboo
Kirsten	Konder	Luck High School	Luck
Carla	Zimmerman	Lombardi Middle School	Green Bay

We are excited to announce that the first round of White-Reinhardt Resource Grant winners have been chosen from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture! Thanks to a generous donation from the CSL Foundation, set up in memory of our late executive director Christy Lilja, we were able to fund 70 grants- 20 more than we expected.

The purpose of these grants is to provide funds to educators to enable them to purchase accurate agricultural literacy materials from the AFBFA store for use in their classrooms. By providing this grant, AFBFA hopes to help students gain access to more accurate information about agriculture. Seventy educators from across the country received \$100 credits the Farm Bureau Store.

Watch for our Monthly Theme Resources



Monthly Themes
Lessons, activities, videos,
careers and more on a crop
and animal each month!
<https://www.wisagclassroom.org/lessons-resources/>

Starting in October, we will have monthly theme resources for your students. We will feature an animal and crop and have links to lessons, videos, hands-on activities, and other resources for elementary, middle and high school students. Watch for these on our website under Resources.



For any help, questions or other inquiries about Ag in the Classroom, please contact:
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darneson@wbf.com | 608.828.5644 | wisagclassroom.org