



Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom
Monthly Themes- Links and Lessons
April 2021– Aquaculture and Fruit



April Themes
Aquaculture and
Fruit



www.wisagclassroom.org

About this series:

The Monthly Theme Lesson Series from Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is a compilation of resources found on Ag in the Classroom, commodity, and other educational websites, YouTube, and sources.

Each month we will feature an animal and crop and share lesson plans, career information, activities and videos about them.

Thank you to all our Ag in the Classroom partners, commodity groups, American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, and other sources who help to tell the agricultural story and provide educational resources for our students, teachers and volunteers!

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Aquaculture Resources and Lessons

National Ag in the Classroom

Lesson Plans

[Exploring Aquaponics \(Grades 3-5\)](#)

The students will identify the basic needs of plants and fish and engineer, assemble, maintain, and observe a small-scale aquaponics system that meets plant and fish needs.

[Exploring Aquaponics \(Grades K-2\)](#)

The students will identify the basic needs of plants and fish and engineer, assemble, maintain, and observe a small-scale aquaponics system that meets plant and fish needs.

[Overfishing and Aquaculture \(Grades 3-5\)](#)

Students will discover the sources of various fish and seafood, compare wild-caught and farm-raised aquaculture systems, and use a simulation to learn how overfishing can damage the ocean ecosystem.

[Overfishing and Aquaculture \(Grades 6-8\)](#)

Students will discover the sources of various fish and seafood, compare wild-caught and farm-raised aquaculture systems, and use a simulation to learn how overfishing can damage the ocean ecosystem.

Companion Resources

In this activity the students will identify the parts and functions of a fish, explore the Japanese art of fish printing known as gyotaku, and label their gyotaku print with the parts of a fish.

Book

[Producing Fish \(The Technology of Farming\)](#)

What is commercial fishing? What are fish farms? How do fish get from the sea to the supermarket? This book looks at the history of fishing, discusses commercial fishing and aquaculture, and explores how technology has impacted the fishing industry.

Movie/Video

[Deep Sea Fish Farming in Geodesic Domes](#)

Learn how fish farming has changed through the years as overfishing and changing water temperatures have impacted the populations of ocean fish. Discover the differences between open ocean aquaculture and inland aquaculture where fish are farmed for food.

[How Do You Grow a Fish Sandwich? Video](#)

Have you heard of hydroponics or aquaculture? In this video from the *Gee Whiz in Agriculture* series, you get a fish-eye view of fish and lettuce production in an ecologically-closed system. We look at plant and fish life cycles, showing how each is dependent upon the other for nourishment. Concepts of symbiotic life systems, chemical and nutrient cycling, and integrated food production are highlighted. A "model ecosystem" can be used to demonstrate concepts, both in the program and the classroom. This video is available on DVD or [YouTube](#). **Order this video online from agclassroomstore.com.**

[Oyster Farm Tour](#)

Visit an oyster farm in Maine to learn about how oysters are grown and harvested.

Booklet/Reader

[Ag Today](#)

Agriculture is everywhere! From the time we wake up in the morning until we end our day at night, we have encountered agriculture through the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the fuel we use for transportation. *Ag Today* is a great reading supplement for upper elementary students to learn about agriculture. The six issues correlate with the themes of the National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes and can be integrated into science, social studies, and language arts curriculum. Each reader provides real-world connections to STEM and makes learning relevant for students in becoming agriculturally literate.

[FAO Statistical Pocketbook: World Food and Agriculture](#)

This is a pocketbook summarization of data presented in the UN Food and Agriculture Organization Statistical Yearbook publications. It includes thematic spreads with data visualizations (graphs, charts, and maps) and basic text. The second part has country-level tables for a selected number of indicators. Topics covered include global demographics, undernourishment, food availability, crop production, agricultural trade, water, energy, and climate change.

Website

[Into the Outdoors: Farm Science](#)

Into the Outdoors is a science website that has a section devoted to farm science. Visit the website to find activities and video clips about aquaculture science, beef cattle, soybean farming, dairy science, and corn. Each subject area has supplemental content for all grade levels K-12.

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom

Trout Fact Sheet- <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Trout-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture

- [Aquaculture is Farming](#)

Jun 26, 2019 ... Marine **aquaculture** includes oysters, clams, mussels, shrimp, salmon and algae. It only makes up 20% of US production and consists mainly of ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/aquaculture-is-farming>)

-

[Producing Fish by Somervill, Barbara A. - Recommended by ...](#)

Topics include commercial fishing and **aquaculture** which is defined as the business of farming fish, shellfish, and marine plants. Full color photographs illustrate ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/producing-fish>)

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[Celebrating Volunteers](#)

Apr 11, 2016 ... Melissa promotes Ag in the Classroom at the Feast Down East Festival held each year to promote the **aquaculture** in New Hanover County.
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/national-volunteer-week>)

Into the Outdoors-

<https://intotheoutdoors.org/topics/aquaculture-science/>

Aquaculture Science

OLD MCDONALD HAD A... FISH? WAIT, WHAT? BELIEVE IT OR NOT, FISH FARMING IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING FORMS OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN THE MIDWEST.

If fish farming, also known as aquaculture, is news to you, don't worry. The Serious Science video below will fill you in on how aquaculture works. You will also learn about aquaponics, where the waste from the fish is used as fertilizer for growing crops. And the crops are grown in the same water that the fish use. Talk about surf and turf. Click on the discussion guide below and the lesson activity to learn more about this topic and to put into practice what you learned in the video.

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association

<https://www.wisconsinaquaculture.com/>

DATCP Resources

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/FishPubsResources.aspx

Aquaculture Publications & Resources

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection offers access to an array of publications and resources and provides industry contacts for Wisconsin aquaculturists, whether you're just getting started or ready to bring your products to market.

Other Organizations

National Aquaculture Association

A non-profit, tax exempt organization whose purpose is to work with all segments of the US aquaculture community for the purpose of national representation of mutual interests.

Education resources- <http://thenaa.net/educators>

North Central Regional Aquaculture Center

Information for the North Central United States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

<https://www.ncrac.org/>

United States Trout Farmers Association

The oldest commercial aquaculture trade organization in the United States, organized in 1954 by a group of trout farmers interested in creating a strong, unified voice for the national trout industry.

<http://ustfa.org/>

World Aquaculture Society

Contributes to the progressive and sustainable development of aquaculture worldwide with a commitment to excellence in science, technology, education, and information exchange.

<https://www.was.org/>

UW Stevens Point

<https://www.uwsp.edu/cols-ap/nadf/Pages/What-is-WI-Aquaculture.aspx>

Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility College of Letters and Science

Florida Department of Agriculture

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Education/Aquaculture-Educator-Resources>

PBS Learning Media

https://illinois.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/pbs_org14_mfisha_sci_8/marine-fisheries-aquaculture-lesson-plan-fishing-for-the-future/

USDA NIFA

<https://freshwater-aquaculture.extension.org/secondary-school-teachers/>

Fruit Resources and Lessons

National Ag in the Classroom

Lesson Plans

[A "Sour" Subject](#)

In this lesson students will learn about the growth and production of citrus fruits and participate in an activity where they use skills of observation and mathematical computation to compare and contrast grapefruits and lemons.

[A is for Apples](#)

Students will use the five senses to investigate apples, identify and model the parts of an apple, make applesauce, and learn how apples are grown.

[Apple Science: Comparing Apples and Onions](#)

Students will explore heredity concepts by comparing observable traits of apples and onions, collecting data on the traits of different apple varieties, and learning about apple production. Additional activities include hands-on methods for testing apple ripeness.

[Backpack Garden](#)

Through project-based learning, students use school resources to construct and grow a school garden to supplement the school Backpack Program with fresh fruits and vegetables.

[Cruisin' for a Bruisin' Food Packaging Specialist](#)

In this lesson students will learn that product packaging is a balance between function, food safety, and economics by designing a protective package for shipping perishable fruit. Each package will be presented to the class for evaluation, and the best design will be shipped to test the product's durability.

[Eat 'Em Up](#)

In this lesson, students will review the plant parts that they eat, including roots, stems, flowers, leaves, fruit, and seeds. Students will choose a favorite fruit or vegetable to feature in a healthy recipe and prepare it with their families.

[Eating Plants](#)

Students will identify the structure and function of six plant parts and classify fruits and vegetables according to which parts of the plants are edible.

[Edible Numbers](#)

Students will develop a working vocabulary regarding food, categorize foods by their sources, examine grocery ads, learn about food production, and apply what they learned by analyzing foods they eat at a particular meal.

[Esperanza Rising](#)

Students will read the novel *Esperanza Rising* written by Pam Munoz Ryan to learn more about migrant workers, agricultural economics, the impact of agriculture to rural communities, agricultural history, and how fruits and vegetables have been harvested historically and are harvested currently.

[FoodMASTER Middle: Fruits](#)

Students will learn the concept of enzymatic browning and methods for decreasing enzymatic oxidation by observing three types of fruit. Students will also understand the relationship between oxidation and antioxidants and the role fruits play in health and nutrition.

[FoodMASTER: Fruits](#)

Students will identify fruits that grow on a tree, bush or vine, classify fruits as pome, drupe, berry, melon, or citrus, perform an experiment about the browning of fruit, and learn drying plums to make prunes.

[Freshest Fruits](#)

Students will learn about where fruits grow and their nutritional value by completing an activity to observe the size, shape, texture, and seeds of various fruits.

[Fruit and Vegetable Bingo](#)

Students will recognize the names of different fruits and vegetables and understand why they are important.

[Fruits and Vegetables: The Right Pick for Vitamins and Minerals](#)

Students will describe the farm-to-table process of common fruits and vegetables, recognize the nutrients fruits and vegetables provide, and evaluate methods of food storage and preparation for preserving nutrients.

[Fruits of Our Labor](#)

Students will discover how fresh fruits can be dried and preserved by participating in an activity where they make raisins by drying grapes.

[Give Me Five!](#)

Students learn about the five food groups and what state-grown foods fit into each group. This lesson makes a local connection to good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle.

[Homegrown in Your State: Fruits and Vegetables](#)

Students explore their state's specialty crops, discover how food gets from the farm to the table, and discuss the importance of eating fruits and vegetables every day.

[Making Half MyPlate Fruits and Vegetables](#)

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce students to MyPlate (2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans) and to reinforce the importance of making half your plate fruits and vegetables.

[My Healthy Plate](#)

Students will become familiar with the foods they eat and healthy eating habits while learning about the MyPlate food campaign. This lesson introduces students to the concept of MyPlate while placing foods they eat into categories for eating a balanced diet.

[My Life as a Fruit or Vegetable](#)

The purpose of this lesson is to provide students with an opportunity to enhance writing skills while simultaneously learning about the production and distribution of fresh produce.

[Nutritional Value of Fresh Produce](#)

In this lesson students will learn that fresh produce is a good source of vitamin A, vitamin C, and fiber, and that all fruits and vegetables do not contain the same quantities of each nutrient.

[Peaches: What's All the Fuzz About?](#)

Students explore peach production in various regions of the United States, describe how peaches are produced and processed from farm to table, and explain how internal and external structures of peaches support survival and growth.

[Plant Tops and Bottoms](#)

Students will identify where fruits and vegetables belong on a MyPlate diagram and describe the major parts of plants - roots, stems, leaves, flowers and fruits according to if they are produced on the top or bottom of a plant.

[Robots Wanted!](#)

Through project-based learning, students examine fruit and vegetable farms to discover the amount of manual labor required to plant, grow, and harvest some of our food. They research the business economics of farm management, the plant life cycle, and the

requirements and challenges faced in reducing manual labor through mechanization or robotics. Students present their findings to an agricultural engineer to begin developing a solution to farm labor shortages.

[The Seed Match](#)

Students will investigate where food comes from, the parts of plants that we eat, and the difference between fruits and vegetables. Activities include examining food plants and their seeds, reading and discussing the book *Tops and Bottoms*, and completing activity sheets.

Companion Resources

[A Seedy Fruit Challenge](#)

This activity teaches students to identify different types of fruits and categorize them into two main groups based on whether they are dry or fleshy. Students will follow a worksheet and complete a lab assignment where they dissect various fruits.

[Fill MyPlate Game](#)

Test your students' understanding of nutrition with this exciting, fast-paced board game. Students take turns rolling a die, moving to different sections of the MyPlate board, and answering basic trivia about healthy eating and food science. The first to "fill their plate" with one trivia card from each section (Fruits, Grains, Vegetables, Protein, and Dairy) wins! In-game bonuses encourage students to exercise, reinforcing personal choice as an important component to a healthy lifestyle. Each gameboard comes with materials for up to five students. Available for purchase or free download. **Order this game online from agclassroomstore.com.**

[The Very Hungry Western Caterpillar](#)

Based off of Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, this caterpillar takes a journey through the Western United States as he eats some of the most popular agriculture commodities in each state. This book can be made individually by students or used as a classroom copy.

Book

[A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds](#)

Many seeds travel inside fruits. The fruit is like a suitcase for the seeds. It protects them on their trip. Readers will learn how fruits are designed to protect a plant's seeds and also to help the plant spread its seeds to new places.

[A Home Run for Peanuts](#)

Meet Jake and his loyal farm dog, Max. They live on a Georgia peanut farm and are excited to show you around. Grab a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and explore the farm through the changing seasons. Along the way, you will discover how farmers take care of their farm machinery, plant seeds, tend the crops, harvest the peanuts, and enjoy the fruits of their labor. Plus, you'll see how Jake applies lessons learned on the farm into other areas of his life—

studying for tests at school, overcoming obstacles, and practicing baseball. Associated activities are available from the [Georgia Peanut Commission](#).

[Amazing Plant Powers: How Plants Fly, Fight, Hide, Hunt, & Change the World](#)

How do plants survive when they can't run away from danger? Plants can live in diverse places such as under water, in deserts, cold climates, high elevations or even on other planets. They must contend with storms, fire, poor soils, and hungry animals and insects. Fortunately plants can grow from spores, seeds, or vegetatively and often get a helping hand from people. Plants are cultivated to provide fruit, vegetables, nuts, grains, and fibers such as cotton as well as for wood, paper, and many other products. The book concludes by noting a few of the habitats plants help create such as forests, prairies, and marshes as the comical plant characters conclude that they do indeed have amazing powers. Several related activities are listed such as a plant power scavenger hunt, a writing prompt: My Plant Power, and a kitchen scrap garden.

[An Apple Tree Through the Year](#)

While tracing the development of an apple tree from bud to fruit, Schnieper highlights the progress of an apple tree through the four seasons. The book provides an overview of life in an orchard. Beautiful full-color photos and black-and-white line drawings highlight and elucidate the text. An excellent explanation of grafting is also included.

[An Orange in January](#)

From blossom to the hands of a child, an orange is seemingly bursting with sunshine even on the coldest of January days. *An Orange in January* is a story about a child who shares his juicy orange segments on a cold day and feels the sunshine it brings to all.

[Apples for Everyone](#)

This picture book comes from National Geographic's *Picture the Seasons* series. Beautiful photographs illustrate apple trees in bloom, bees visiting apple flowers, a variety of apples, and apple trees heavy with fruit in the fall.

[Apples to Oregon](#)

A pioneer father transports his beloved fruit trees and his family to Oregon in the mid-nineteenth century. Based loosely on the life of Henderson Luelling. The slightly true narrative of how a brave pioneer father brought apples, pears, plums, grapes, and cherries (and children) across the plains.

[Blueberries for Sal](#)

Sal and her mother are picking blueberries to can for the winter. But when Sal wanders to the other side of Blueberry Hill, she discovers a mama bear preparing for her own long winter. Meanwhile, Sal's mother is being followed by a small bear with a big appetite for berries! Will

each mother go home with the right little one? With its expressive line drawings and charming story, *Blueberries for Sal* has won readers' hearts since its first publication in 1948.

[Bring Me Some Apples and I'll Make You a Pie](#)

From the whippoorwill's call on the first day of spring through the first snowfall, Edna and members of her family gather fruits, berries, and vegetables from the fields, garden and orchard on their Virginia farm and turn them into wonderful meals. Includes facts about the life of Edna Lewis, a descendant of slaves who grew up to be a famous chef.

[Carrots Grow Underground](#)

Part of the *How Fruits and Vegetables Grow* set, this title highlights the life cycle of a carrot and gives examples of other plant-based foods that grow underground. Designed for early readers, the book includes a list of additional resources and a glossary.

[Eating the Alphabet](#)

An alphabetical tour of the world of fruit and vegetables from apricot and artichoke to yam and zucchini.

[Farm Crops](#)

This book provides a detailed overview of how farmers grow crops, exploring topics like why soil is important, what a grain crop is, how farmers grow fruits and nuts on trees, and how farmers pick crops. Important vocabulary words are highlighted and defined in a glossary at the end.

[Farmers Market](#)

Rise and shine it is market day! This book was developed with fresh vegetables and fruits in mind! The story recounts a family trip to the farmers market through the eyes of a small girl. The setting is southwestern as is the scenery.

[First Apple](#)

In this autobiographical novel set in the 1940s, the author tells of her childhood in China and her dream to buy a special gift for her grandmother's birthday--an apple, a fruit that is precious and rare in her part of mainland China. The child's voice and the intensity of her desire to do something for her grandmother, who has raised her from early childhood, are very real. This first novel by a Chinese immigrant is poignant, memorable, and presented in a format that is accessible to readers at the chapter book level and beyond.

[First Day in Grapes](#)

All year long Chico and his family move up and down the state of California picking fruits and vegetables. Every September they pick grapes and Chico starts at a new school again. Often other children pick on him—maybe because he is always new or maybe because he speaks Spanish sometimes. Chico's first day in third grade turns out to be different. His teacher likes

him right away, and she and his classmates are quick to recognize his excellent math skills. He may even get to go to the math fair! When the fourth-grade bullies confront Chico in the lunchroom, he responds wisely with strengths of his own.

Food

This book traces the production of food from the farm to our fork. Readers learn where fruits and vegetables grow, visit a dairy where milk is produced, learn about eggs and meat which come from animals, and see how wheat is processed into flour to bake cakes or make pasta.

From Apples to Applesauce

This book describes apple production, following the process from farm to the table. Fun facts about apples and their production, processing, packaging, and distribution are provided throughout.

Fruit Bowl

All the fruits are in the bowl. There's Apple and Orange. Strawberry and Peach. Plum and Pear. And, of course, Tomato. Now wait just a minute! Tomatoes aren't fruit! Or are they? Using sly science (and some wisdom from a wise old raisin), Tomato proves all the fruit wrong and shows that he belongs in the bowl just as much as the next blueberry! And he's bringing some unexpected friends too!

Gathering the Sun

In simple words and sun-drenched paintings, Alma Flor Ada and Simón Silva take us into the fields and orchards, and into the lives of the people who work them. Simple poems in Spanish and English, one for each letter of the Spanish alphabet, describe the wonder of the vegetable and fruit farms. Together, the poems and rich illustrations celebrate the glory of nature and the hearts of all who dedicate their lives to working the land.

Grandpa's Garden

This beautifully told story follows Billy from early spring to late summer as he helps his grandpa on his vegetable patch. They dig the hard ground, sow rows of seeds, and keep them watered and safe from slugs. When harvest time arrives, they can pick all the vegetables and fruit they have grown. Children will be drawn in by the poetry of the language and the warm illustrations, while also catching the excitement of watching things grow!

Green Bean! Green Bean!

A girl plants the seed of a green bean and watches it grow and mature through the seasons, even providing a nook in which to read a book. Includes supplementary information about the life cycle of plants, pertinent vocabulary, and activities.

[Grow! Raise! Catch!](#)

Who grows our juicy fruit and yummy vegetables? Who raises animals for our tasty eggs, milk, and meat? Who catches fresh fish for our table? Farmers and fishermen show off their bounty in this lively and informative look at the people who produce the food on which we all rely.

[Growing Seasons](#)

Growing Seasons is a non-fiction picture book about farm life at the turn of the last century, as told through the eyes of Elsie Lee Splear [1906-1996] and the paintings of artist Ken Stark. Nearly everything was done by hand—washing clothes with homemade lard soap, canning fruits and vegetables, butchering meat, and much more—before the advent of rural electricity, indoor plumbing and central heating.

[How Do Apples Grow?](#)

This book is a part of the Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science series, and it clearly illustrates how fruit comes from flowers. Colorful illustrations show the male and female parts of the apple flowers up close, and the role that bees play in pollinating apple flowers is explained in simple language. The book follows apple trees through all four seasons, from the closed buds of winter to the ripe apples of fall.

[How Flowers Grow](#)

How Flowers Grow is a 32-page informational text showing the development of flowers through color illustrations and photographs. You will see how a seed germinates, sprouts, and grows into a mature plant. You will also learn plant anatomy, how plants make their food through photosynthesis, and see flowers that thrive in different ecosystems such as the rainforest, desert, or even in the water.

[How Groundhog's Garden Grew](#)

Little Groundhog, in trouble for stealing from his friends' gardens, is taught by Squirrel to grow his very own. From seed-gathering to planting, harvesting, and eating home-grown fruits and vegetables, children join Little Groundhog in learning about the gardening process. At the end, Little Groundhog invites his animal friends to a Thanksgiving harvest feast.

[How Things Grow](#)

How Things Grow is an elementary level book teaching all about plants and how they grow. You will learn about seeds, flowers, seasons, trees, fruits and nuts.

[How to Grow an Apple Pie](#)

It's easy to make an apple pie, but what does it take to make the apples? Sophie is about to find out! First, the apple trees need to be about six years old—just like Sophie. Next, they need to be pruned, and the bees have to pollinate their blossoms! After that, the tiny apples grow through

the summer until they're ready to pick in the fall. Finally, it's time for Sophie to make the perfect pie!

[Jack & the Hungry Giant Eat Right with MyPlate](#)

Yummy! Colorful images of fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy, and protein foods fill the pages of this picture book starring Jack of beanstalk fame. Fortunately, the friendly giant in this version of the story is happy to invite a guest for dinner. As they cook together, Jack learns about the food groups that are a part of a well-balanced meal. The book is an appetizing way to introduce children to the MyPlate nutrition program, written and illustrated by Loreen Leedy.

[Life Cycles: Pumpkins](#)

Pumpkins is a picture-book celebration of the edible plant. Full-color photography offers a tour of the life of a pumpkin plant, from planting to flower to fruit to harvest, and finally to being carved into a jack-o-lantern. Large photos and simple language make this book ideal for young students.

[Look Inside Food](#)

Look Inside Food is an all-inclusive book highlighting the production of our food from the farm to our table. This interactive flap book includes extensive information and illustrations about the origin of our foods including grains, fruit and vegetables, and food from animals such as milk, meat, and eggs. Even sugar and chocolate begins its production on a farm.

[Migrant](#)

Anna is the child of Mennonites from Mexico, who have come north to harvest fruits and vegetables. Sometimes she feels like a bird, flying north in the spring and south in the fall, sometimes like a jackrabbit in an abandoned burrow, since her family occupies an abandoned farmhouse near the fields, sometimes like a kitten, as she shares a bed with her sisters...But above all Anna wonders what it would be like to be a tree rooted deeply in the earth, watching the seasons come and go, instead of being like a "feather in the wind."

[Oliver's Fruit Salad](#)

Oliver is off to stay with Grandpa, who grows his own vegetables. But Oliver doesn't eat vegetables—only chips. How will Grandpa persuade him into a week of healthy eating?

[Our Apple Tree](#)

A whimsical and very useful look at the life cycle of the apple tree. With the help of two helpful tree sprites as guides, readers travel from spring, when the apple tree blossoms, through summer, when the fruit grows, to fall and the harvest. Along the way, you'll learn about the life of the tree and the animals that visit—from insects that pollinate the flowers to deer that eat the fallen fruit.

[Peach Heaven](#)

The white peaches grown in Puchon are the best in all South Korea and are a rare treat for a little girl who lives in the town. She dreams of a peach orchard where she can play and eat as much of the delicious fruit as she wishes. Then one day, after weeks of heavy downpours, the sky begins to rain peaches. Yangsook finds herself in peach heaven—until she remembers the farmers who have lost their harvest, and decides she must help them.

[Pick, Pull, Snap! Where Once a Flower Bloomed](#)

In the orchard, a honey bee buzzes. Its legs brush pollen inside a fragrant pink flower. A small green fruit begins to grow and grow and grow...Peaches and peas and even peanuts—they all begin with a single flower. How? Open this book and find out!

[Pie in the Sky](#)

Do pies grow on trees? Join a father and child as they watch over their backyard cherry tree—and all the colorful living things surrounding it—throughout the seasons. At the end of the summer, they harvest the cherries together and make a delicious pie for the whole family to enjoy.

[Plant Secrets](#)

Young scientists will love this nature mystery that reveals the secrets hiding in seeds, plants, flowers, and fruits throughout the life cycle of various flora. Curiosity will bloom in this introduction to botany and primary nature science. Plants come in all shapes and sizes, but they go through the same stages as they grow. Using four common plants, young readers learn about plant structure and life cycles.

[Plants Feed Me](#)

Plants Feed Me is an early elementary, non-fiction picture book about the plant foods we eat. This book describes which parts of plants are edible in simple accessible language using botanically realistic illustrations. Basic botanical science concepts of seed, sprout, flower, fruit, and plant structure are introduced with words and pictures.

[Pumpkins](#)

From late summer to Thanksgiving, pumpkins are everywhere, a symbol of fall and a reminder of the holidays to come. In this book, Ken Robbins portrays the pumpkin from seed, to sprout, to flower, to fully fledged fruit, and back again. Instructions are given to (safely) carve a jack-o'-lantern.

[Radio Man](#)

Diego and his family are migrant farmers who move from state to state picking fruits and vegetables. Each day brings a new experience—a different place, a different crop, and different

people to meet. But no matter where Diego goes, his radio goes with him—it helps him to learn about the places he's going and to keep in touch with the people he meets along the way.

[Seed, Sprout, Pumpkin, Pie](#)

Pumpkins! Who can resist the sight of big, round, orange pumpkins ripening in a field? Children piling off school buses to pick one out. Carving out funny faces, smiles, or scary frowns to illuminate Halloween doorsteps. Making room for that last piece of pumpkin pie after a delicious Thanksgiving feast. In this book, pumpkins aren't just a fruit, they're a symbol, a scent, a flavor of the entire season.

[The Apple Pie Tree](#)

Two young sisters watch in fascination as their apple tree changes, from bare in winter to a burst of pink blossoms in the spring. When autumn comes, the small green apples have grown big enough for picking—and for pie! This colorfully illustrated book shows how apples are produced and how apple trees change with the seasons.

[The Fruits We Eat](#)

This book teaches accurate science about fruits and the production of fruits. It is a book of facts, examples, and illustrations. Facts taught include: How fruits are included in a healthy diet, different ways fruits are eaten, types of plants that grow fruit (tree, bush, vine, etc.), parts of a fruit, colors of fruit, and sweet fruits vs. tart fruits. The illustrations are very detailed and include many diagrams.

[The Pumpkin Book](#)

Big, small, round, tall—pumpkins come in all shapes and sizes. Here one learns the marvels of the growth cycle of these incredible plants—from flat seeds, to thick vines covered in golden flowers, to brilliant orange pumpkins! Gail Gibbons also relates the special role pumpkins played in the first Thanksgiving. Simple and clear directions for drying seeds, planting and tending pumpkin patches, and carving funny or scary faces are included in the book, along with a fascinating section on pumpkin facts and lore.

[The Story of Food: An Illustrated History of Everything We Eat](#)

This glorious visual celebration of food in all its forms reveals the extraordinary cultural impact of the foods we eat, explores the early efforts of humans in their quest for sustenance, and tells the fascinating stories behind individual foods. With profiles of the most culturally and historically interesting foods of all types, from nuts and grains, fruits and vegetables, and meat and fish, to herbs and spices, this fascinating culinary historical reference provides the facts on all aspects of each food's unique story. Feature spreads shine a spotlight on influential international cuisines and the local foods that built them. *The Story of Food* explains how foods have become the cornerstone of our culture, from their origins to how they are eaten and their place in world cuisine.

[The Very Oldest Pear Tree](#)

In the 1630s in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, a Puritan settler planted a pear tree—the first pear tree in America. More than a century later, the tree still bore fruit, impressing a famous poet and one of the first US presidents. The pear tree survived hurricanes, fire, and vandalism, and today, more than 350 years after it was first planted, it's alive and strong, and clones of it grow all around the US. This is the amazing true story of the Endicott Pear tree, and how it grew up with our nation.

[Time for Cranberries](#)

From the cranberry bog to the Thanksgiving table, join Sam and his family as they harvest a classic American fruit. When the vines hang heavy with berries that the autumn winds have turned deep red, it's time for cranberries, and Sam is finally old enough to help with the harvest! This charming, lyrical picture book follows Sam and his family as they raise the water in the bog, pick the cranberries, and gather the fruit for processing. It's a story of modern family farming in action, showing readers where their food comes from but mostly delighting them along the way. This book is a great companion to lessons on farming, harvesting, use of machines, Thanksgiving, or cranberries.

[Tomatoes, Potatoes, Corn & Beans](#)

This excellent book describes how foods from North and South America changed eating around the world. It focuses on corn, beans, peppers, peanuts, potatoes, tomatoes, and chocolate but also includes other foods that originated in the Americas. Can you imagine Italian food without the tomato? Indian curries without the pepper? German or Irish food without the potato? Corn is now the most widely grown grain in the world. This book details the history of those transitions and is illustrated with historic artwork and modern photos. For anyone wishing to understand the real gold found in America, this book is an essential read.

[Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt](#)

Up in the garden, the world is full of green—leaves and sprouts, growing vegetables, ripening fruit. But down in the dirt there is a busy world of earthworms digging, snakes hunting, skunks burrowing, and all the other animals that make a garden their home. Discover the wonders that lie hidden between stalks, under the shade of leaves...and down in the dirt.

[Water, Weed, and Wait](#)

When Miss Marigold challenges the kids at Pepper Lane Elementary to turn an unpromising patch of their schoolyard into a garden full of fruits, flowers, and vegetables, they know they'll need all the help they can get. Soon everyone in the community is lending a hand—including an unlikely neighbor with a soft spot for gardening—and it isn't long before peppers, zucchini, sugar peas, snapdragons, zinnias, and much more are growing and blooming. The book includes photos of students gardening in real school gardens and information on how readers can start their own school or home garden project.

[Weslandia](#)

Wesley suffers rejection from classmates until he puts his school lessons to use and founds his own civilization around a staple crop that blows in on the wind. He turns over a plot of earth, and plants begin to grow. They soon tower above him and bear a curious-looking fruit. As Wesley experiments, he finds that the plant will provide food, clothing, shelter, and even recreation. Wesley's innovations make a perfect tie-in for teaching about goods and services in the community and how agriculture creates jobs and influences development. His whimsical garden is also sure to pique students curiosity about growing plants, making this a nice introduction to any plant-related lesson.

[What's in the Garden?](#)

Good food doesn't begin on a store shelf with a box. It comes from a garden bursting with life, color, smells, sunshine, moisture, birds, and bees! Healthy food becomes much more interesting when children know where it comes from. So what's in a garden? Children will find a variety of fruits and vegetables and a tasty, kid-friendly recipe for each one to start a lifetime of good eating. A "Food for Thought" section explains facts about each fruit and vegetable, and a "How Does Your Garden Grow?" section explains facts about gardening and the parts of plants.

[When Vegetables Go Bad](#)

This work of fiction is a great tool to introduce nutrition to younger audiences and encourage them to eat vegetables. This title might mislead you to think the vegetables in the book are spoiling but the story is really about vegetables behaving badly because Ivy refused to eat them. Instead of eating her vegetables, Ivy stuffed them into her pocket. At night when she is sleeping, the vegetables form a taunting chorus in Ivy's sleep and invade her dreams with nasty songs. No matter how Ivy tries to run from this nightmare, the vegetables chase her down and continue their harassment. Once she admits she likes vegetables, the nightmare stops.

[Zora's Zucchini](#)

The first zucchini of a summer garden is always exciting, but what happens when the plants just keep growing...and growing...and growing? Zora soon finds herself with more zucchini than her family can bake, saute, or barbecue. Fortunately, the ever-resourceful girl comes up with the perfect plan—a garden swap!

Kit

[SpaceLite \(Plant Light\)](#)

This small grow light is easy to set up, use, and store, and it comes in a kit with everything you need to get started: frame, pot, light bulb, light timer, and one packet each of Micro-tina Tomato and Earligreen Pea space seeds. These miniature plants are sure to impress your students and will get flowers and edible fruit—perfect for life cycle studies. **Order this kit online from aqclassroomstore.com.**

Map/Infographic

[Agricultural Commodity & Natural Resource Fact Sheets](#)

These fact sheets provide information on the history, production, top producing regions and economic values of various agricultural products and natural resources. The activity sheets provide specific lesson ideas and fun facts for each topic. Commodities include agricultural water, alfalfa, almonds, artichokes, asparagus, avocados, beef, cantaloupes, carrots, citrus fruits, cling peaches, corn, cotton, cut flowers, dairy, dried plums, dry beans, forest resources, mushroom, pears, pistachios, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, processing tomato, rice, strawberries, table grapes, walnuts.

[Dig In! Posters](#)

These dynamic posters visually express the world of possibilities found in growing and eating fruits and vegetables. Display them in your classroom, the school cafeteria, and throughout the school to motivate students to choose more fruits and vegetables at meals and as snacks. Horizontal posters are 24" x 36". Vertical posters are 36" x 24". Posters are available in [PDF](#) or upon request from [USDA Team Nutrition](#).

[Interactive Map Project](#)

Use this interactive map to help students see how geography and climate affects the production of agricultural crops. The map has USDA statistics built in to allow your students to answer questions such as, "Which state(s) produce the most cattle?" "Where does [my state] rank nationally in corn production?" "What region of the United States produces the most cotton?" etc. There are many agricultural maps available including field crops such as corn, wheat, barley, and alfalfa in addition to fruit and vegetable crops, ornamental nursery crops, and livestock.

[Nutrition Posters](#)

How would you rather eat calcium, fiber, iron, protein, vitamin C, and zinc? This set of posters provides examples of foods that fit into each category and includes nutrition information about each.

[Parts of a Strawberry Plant Poster](#)

The fruits and vegetables we eat come from parts of a plant. Flowering plants have six main parts. Use this 28" x 24" laminated poster of a strawberry plant to label and discuss the functions of the roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruit and seeds. **Order this poster online from [agclassroomstore.com](#).**

[Plant Part Chart](#)

The fruits and vegetables we eat come from parts of a plant. Identify examples of roots, stems, leaves, flower, fruit, and seeds from every letter of the alphabet using this colorful 25" x 30" poster. **Order this poster online from [agclassroomstore.com](#).**

[What is a Fruit? What is a Vegetable? Bulletin Boards](#)

This set of bulletin boards teaches students about the differences between fruits and vegetables and offers many examples of each. The set also includes 36 fruit and vegetable cards along with instructions for how they can be used in your classroom. **Order this kit online from agclassroomstore.com.**

Movie/Video

[Apples](#)

This 30-minute video begins with the legend of Johnny Appleseed and then goes on to explore apples in pioneer times with the story of the McIntosh apple. An orchard is visited over the seasons from winter pruning, spring blossoms with bees and pollination, spring planting, summer thinning to fall harvesting. Viewers even get to see apple cells through an electron microscope and learn how to clone an apple tree.

[Food Doesn't Grow in the Supermarket!](#)

This DVD, narrated by children, follows "The City Guy," an adult who thinks he knows where food comes from (the grocery store), as he visits three different farms to learn where food really comes from and what it takes to produce it. Interesting even for those who have experience in farming and food production! This video is available on DVD or [YouTube](#). **Order this DVD online from agclassroomstore.com.**

[How Do Farmers Make Seedless Fruit?](#)

Explore how seedless fruits are made and how trees are reproduced without seeds in this 4-minute video.

[That's So Sweet! – A Look at Honey Production in the Twin Cities](#)

Follow along on the fascinating journey of honey from the hive to your home. Kristy Lynn Allen, head beekeeper at the Beez Kneez introduces the process of honey collection, extraction, and delivery. Learn the important role honey bees play in honey production and the pollination of some of our favorite fruits and vegetables!

[Top 10 Foods That Originally Looked Totally Different](#)

Everyday foods, fruit and veggies used to look totally different before we started cultivating them. But did you know they haven't always looked like they currently do? Here are 10 fruits and veggies that looked very different before we started cultivating them!

[Will the Last Farmer in America Please Turn Out the Light? video](#)

Immigration policy affects how we eat... what we eat... and how much it costs. Discover the necessity farmers have for skilled labor in order to plant, grow, and harvest the food on our tables. When did immigrant farm labor begin and what challenges would occur if this work force was lost?

Booklet/Reader

[Jr. Sprout - Funky Foods](#)

Blue tomatoes, red bananas, and green oranges - is this possible? Yes, it is with the help and knowledge of farmers and scientists. Changes in color or taste made to fruits and vegetables can create healthier foods. This booklet an activity and provides colorful images and information regarding healthy fruits and vegetables through standards of science, math and English.

[Jr. Sprout - Healthy Eating](#)

This creative activity booklet engages students to create their own food faces while using healthy fruits and vegetables grown in a vegetable garden. It also discusses challenges that people encounter while selecting "bad foods" that contain oils, sugars, and fats versus "good foods."

[Science in Your Shopping Cart](#)

We pay less for food than citizens of other nations; the United States enjoys the cheapest food in the world. Each year, dozens of improved products and new varieties of fruits, nuts, and vegetables emerge from the laboratories and greenhouses of the Agricultural Research Service. But walking through the grocery store, do we ever consider where such an abundance and variety of food and products come from? Learn about ARS research and how it affects your food in this [Free PDF booklet](#) (24MB) and [video](#). [Order the DVD video online from agclassroomstore.com](#).

Teacher Reference

[Botany on Your Plate: Investigating Plants We Eat](#)

This investigative science curriculum introduces the world of plants to elementary school students through foods we eat. Watch children's understanding of our world grow as they partake in hands-on activities that explore edible roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, and seeds through observation, dissection, journaling, discussion of findings, and, of course, tasting! This book can be used in educators' instruction to support standards in nutrition, math, language arts, and social studies. Every lesson includes plant snacks that spark curiosity, interesting questions, and social dialogue to fuel the learning process.

[Edible Gardening: Growing Your Own Vegetables, Fruits, and More](#)

This gardening guide provides fun and creative ideas for growing vegetables, fruits, and more. It lists of everything you need and easy, step-by-step instructions accompany each project. Grow a pepper plant in an upside-down planter or plant a spaghetti garden. Teachers will be inspired to create edible class gardens with their students.

[Grow it Again](#)

This resource will help you find creative solutions to growing affordable plants in the classroom. You may find it hard to believe, but the makings of a fantastic growing experience are probably in your kitchen right now. Don't put those carrot tops in the compost or throw out the seeds in

that apple core—try growing them instead. Turn a peanut into an unusual flower or a beet top into a leafy plant. The step-by-step illustrated instructions in this book make it easy!

Website

[Antimicrobial Wash for Fresh Produce](#)

This article supplements lessons regarding food safety and food processing from the farm to the grocery store. Learn about an antimicrobial formulation, approved by the US Food and Drug Administration, that has been formulated to reduce the risk of food-borne pathogens that could contaminate fresh produce. The antimicrobial wash is a combination of lactic acid, fruit acids, and hydrogen peroxide proven to reduce pathogens up to 99.99 percent.

[Mandarin Oranges: Protecting the Flavor of This Popular Fruit](#)

This article can enrich a lesson on food safety, transportation, food packaging, or food science with a real-life example. Illustrate how food scientists are researching the mandarin orange to protect the flavor of the fruit after it is harvested.

[Producepedia](#)

Fruits, vegetables, and nuts are all considered produce. *Producepedia* is a website devoted to teaching about these important food crops. Find fun facts about various produce, learn about how and where it is grown, when it is in season, and watch videos from top chefs about how to cook and prepare the produce for eating.

[Yum! Fruit and Vegetable Wraps](#)

Food scientists have a career in developing foods that are appealing to the eye and taste bud as well as being nutritious. Use this research article about fruit and vegetable wraps to highlight what a career in food science would entail.

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom

Commodity Fact Sheets- <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/wisconsin-ag-facts/wisconsin-commodity-facts/>

This Business Called Agriculture- <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/this-business-called-agriculture/>

Link to Wood County Cranberry STEAM Lesson Plan Project- <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/lessons-resources/classroom-lessons/cranberry-steam-learning-project/>

Wisconsin Apple Growers

<https://www.waga.org/>

Wisconsin Berry Growers

<https://www.wiberries.org/>

Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers

<http://www.wiscran.org/cranberries/education/>

Wisconsin Cranberry Discovery Center

<http://www.discovercranberries.com/>

Wisconsin Cherry Growers

<http://wisconsincherrygrowers.org/>

UW Fruit Program

<https://fruit.wisc.edu/>

Wisconsin Horticulture

<https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/article-topic/fruits/>

American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture

Ag Mags about some fruit - <https://www.wisagclassroom.org/product-category/readers-and-ag-mags/>. You can order through Wisconsin AITC

- [Free At Home Educational Activities About Agriculture: Week 2](#)

Apr 2, 2020 ... We're back this week with some more free educational activities parents can do at home! This week we are focusing on **fruit**.

(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/free-at-home-educational-activities-about-agriculture-week-2>)

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- [Can eating a genetically modified fruit or vegetable change a ...](#)

Eating GMO products does not impact our genes. Our bodies digest the proteins and absorb the amino acids in food. The body cannot tell where a protein ...

(<https://www.agfoundation.org/common-questions/view/can-eating-a-genetically-modified-fruit-or-vegetable-change-a-persons-genes>)

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- [7 Romantic Foods & Where They Come From](#)

Feb 8, 2016 ... Although it seems an exotic **fruit**, pomegranates do grow in California. The inside of the pomegranate is full of seeds called arils. The seed is ...

(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/7-romantic-foods-where-they-come-from>)

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- [Fruit - Publications Recommended by American Farm Bureau ...](#)

Plants, Foods from Plants & Goods from Plants **Fruit** Books Elementary School. 600 Maryland Avenue SW. Suite 1000W. Washington, DC 20024. Tel 800-443- ...

(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/category/fruit>)

How Do Oranges Grow?

Mar 19, 2018 ... Hopper Farms is comprised of 130 acres of citrus **fruit**. Our crop is composed of navel oranges, Valencia oranges, Blood oranges, mandarins, ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/how-do-oranges-grow>)

California Fruit Raps by Karen Adler - Recommended by American ...

California **Fruit** Raps is a book filled with music and fun facts about California's top producing **fruits**. Fifteen fun **fruit** rap songs are featured in this nutritional and ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/california-fruit-raps>)

Fruit by Lynn M. Stone - Recommended by American Farm Bureau ...

This beautifully photographed book about **fruit** is basic but accurate. It is an excellent resource for any teacher trying to explain the difference between a **fruit** and ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/fruit>)

We Love Fruit by Fay Robinson - Recommended by American Farm ...

This early-reader book begins to teach students about **fruit**. A few basic concepts are addressed superficially, which is appropriate at this age level. The nice ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/we-love-fruit>)

From Fruit to Jelly by Shannon Zemlicka - Recommended by ...

From **Fruit** to Jelly. By Shannon Zemlicka. As with the other books in this series, this early reader presents factual information in a few brief sentences per page ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/from-fruit-to-jelly>)

Seed, Sprout, Fruit: An Apple Tree Cycle by Shannon Knudsen ...

Seed, Sprout, **Fruit**: An Apple Tree Cycle. By Shannon Knudsen. In this graphic novel format, text and illustrations describe the life cycle of an apple tree. Great to ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/seed-sprout-fruit-an-apple-tree-cycle>)

BERRY Surprising Facts

Aug 28, 2018 ... Aggregate **fruits** develop from multiple ovaries of the same flower that join together. Let's explore some surprising berries! Bananas. You know ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/berry-surprising-facts>)

Where does seedless watermelon come from?

Jul 18, 2017 ... When this seeded **fruit** matures, the small, white seed coats inside contain 33 chromosomes, rendering it sterile and incapable of producing ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/where-does-seedless-watermelon-come-from>)

Fruits on MyPlate by Mari Schuh and Gail Saunders Smith ...

Fruit is sweet, juicy, and healthy. Learn about how MyPlate helps kids make great food choices every day, including **fruit**!
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/fruits-on-myplate>)

- [Producing Fruits by McManus, Lori - Recommended by American ...](https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/producing-fruits)
This book explores **fruits** from ancient times to the present when modern ... A brief look at the history of **fruit** farming leads to current practices of soil care and ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/producing-fruits>)
- [The New Food Guide Pyramid, Fruits by Emily Green ...](https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/the-new-food-guide-pyramid-fruits)
This early reader book provides very basic information about the value of **fruit** to proper nutrition. It contains the revised food guide pyramid and the text ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/the-new-food-guide-pyramid-fruits>)
- [Eating the Alphabet: Fruits & Vegetables from A to Z by Lois Ehlert ...](https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/eating-the-alphabet-fruits-vegetables-from-a-z)
In brilliant watercolor collages, Lois Ehlert introduces young readers to a wide variety of **fruits** and vegetables from A to Z. Clearly labeled and easy to identify, ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/eating-the-alphabet-fruits-vegetables-from-a-z>)
- [Fruits: Healthy Eating with MyPlate by Nancy Dickmann ...](https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/fruits)
The focus of this book is to introduce young readers to **fruits** and their nutritional value. There is little production information except that **fruits** grow on trees and ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/fruits>)
- [Celebrating the Apple – All Year Round!](https://www.agfoundation.org/news/celebrating-the-apple-all-year-round)
Oct 13, 2017 ... This method helps keep **fruit** fresh longer – most varieties of apples can be stored for 12 months or longer! Because of Controlled Atmosphere ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/celebrating-the-apple-all-year-round>)
- [Plants, Foods from Plants & Goods from Plants - Publications ...](https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/category/plants-foods-from-plants-goods-from-plants/P10)
American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. Added: Apr 02, 2015. Harvest & Harvest Celebration Plants, Foods from Plants & Goods from Plants **Fruit** ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/recommended-pubs/category/plants-foods-from-plants-goods-from-plants/P10>)
- [At Home Learning Jan 4](https://www.agfoundation.org/news/at-home-learning-jan-4)
Jan 3, 2021 ... Enjoy this **Fruit** and Vegetable Bingo game! Students will recognize the names of different **fruits** and vegetables and understand why they are ...
(<https://www.agfoundation.org/news/at-home-learning-jan-4>)

Kids Gardening

<https://kidsgardening.org/>