



California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Fantastic Ag Fact:

California produces approximately 90 percent of the nation's avocado crop.



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Students at our second annual Sacramento Farm Day learning about different pests.



Teacher Feature

Amy Myrdal Miller,

MS, RDN, FAND

[Farmer's Daughter® Consulting](#)

This month we are switching things up! We are featuring, Amy Myrdal Miller, award-winning dietitian. Amy will be speaking at our upcoming nutritional seminar on April 30. Read more about her below.

1. How and when did you first learn of

Ag in the Classroom?

I worked for Dole Food Company from 2000-2005. We developed and provided free nutrition education materials to elementary school teachers across the country. We were always delighted to hear from teachers who complemented their nutrition education activities with agriculture education activities by using materials from Ag in the Classroom.



2. Do you have any advice for teachers wanting to bring agriculture or nutrition into the classroom?

First, be sure to share science and evidence-based information. There are far too many people out there sharing or spreading misinformation and fear. Be an advocate for truthful, not misleading, information that empowers students and their families. Second, ask local experts (e.g., Registered Dietitians, farmers, ranchers, leaders from Cooperative Extension, the commodity and marketing boards, etc.) to come into your classrooms and share their expertise and passion. And third, please don't use "shockumentaries" to share information with students. Most documentaries about our food system are wildly biased one-sided films meant to make money, not truly enhance understanding about very complex issues.

3. What AITC resources would you use in a classroom and why?

Use as many AITC resources as you can! From the lesson plans and Fact Sheets to the Teaching Tools Grab Bag, these resources are powerful for teaching kids lessons that will last a lifetime. Less than two percent of the population grows and produces the food for the rest of us. More than 97% of farms are owned and operated by farm families. The more students understand and appreciate what it takes to get food from the farm to the table, the better off our farm families will be as they strive to produce food with more and more challenges.



Unique Training Opportunity for Nutrition Educators and Enthusiasts

We are pleased to announce that we are hosting an agricultural nutrition education seminar "Healthy Students, Healthy Minds - Support for Agricultural Nutrition Education," on **Tuesday, April 30, 2019** for educators, health and wellness coordinators, and nutrition enthusiasts. Attendees will gain an appreciation for the agriculture industry, all that it provides our daily lives, and learn how to incorporate and share agricultural education nutrition resources with colleagues, students, parent volunteers, family, and friends.

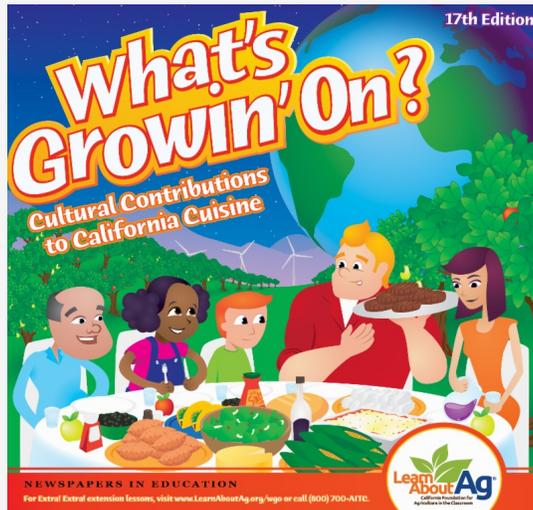
Tentative Agenda:

- Attendees will start the day with presentations from Amy Myrdal Miller and industry experts and engage in Common Core and STEM activities focused on nutrition.
- While dining family style for lunch, attendees will participate in a Taste and Teach activity that is easy to take back to their students.
- We will spend the afternoon experiencing two farm tours to see firsthand how food is produced and how it gets to your table.
- We will conclude the day with a reception featuring our 17th edition of *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper highlighting Cultural Contributions to California Cuisine. Participants will leave with a Starter Kit of agricultural nutrition-based resources for themselves, and two additional kits for colleagues.

[Register Today!](#)



Featured Resource



***What's Growin' On?* 17th Edition NOW available!**

In this edition of *What's Growin' On?* we explore how California is a true melting pot of cultures.

Teachers: you can now request classroom sets (up to 50) of this resource to be mailed directly to you, FOR FREE! Full of activities, engaging text, and already aligned to standards, this resource will be a great addition to your classroom!
Order now!

[Request This Resource Online!](#)



Grant Feature

Look at Agriculture... Organically! Grant



The 'Look at Agriculture... Organically!' grants are designed to creatively enhance the understanding of organic agriculture for kindergarten through eighth grade students. Grants of up to \$1,000 will be provided to educators nationwide. These grants are made possible by a partnership with California Certified Organic Farmers and California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

[Apply Online!](#)

Deadline: May 6, 2019



Education and Agriculture Together (EAT) Foundation

The EAT Foundation offers a variety of Continuing Education (CE) classes which combine hands-on workshops, seminars, and tours in the field of agriculture. Courses are offered in 1, 2 & 3 day sessions and take place at various locations and times of the year. Find out more [here!](#)

Mobile Dairy Classroom

Bring agriculture to your school with the Mobile Dairy Classroom! An assembly teaches how milk and dairy foods are produced and how they contribute to healthy eating. When you combine the Mobile Dairy Classroom with Common Core aligned nutrition lesson plans, your students learn the full story of healthy foods - from the farm to the table - and how they can make healthy choices for themselves. Find out more [here!](#)

Want to go to Arkansas this summer?

Mark your calendars for June 18-21, 2019. Attend the 2019 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. Surround yourself with educators passionate about agriculture. Find out more [here!](#)



For Educators

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
Life Lab Workshops Life Lab has trained tens of thousands of educators across the nation! Sign up today for one of their many workshops, spring through summer!	Santa Cruz, CA	Spring - Summer 2019

SMUD Workshops

Make STEAM education come alive for your students with free, professional workshops that include hands-on activities and materials. K-12 teachers and students will be inspired and motivated to learn from a variety of resources including workshops, games and activities, printed materials and virtual field trips.

Sacramento, CA

Year-Round
(including summer)

Powerhouse Science Center

For over 65 years, Powerhouse Science Center has been dedicated to partnering with educators across Northern California. Visit the center to try the hands-on labs, workshops and programs that are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards and focus on providing opportunities for mastering disciplinary core ideas (DCIs) and Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs).

Sacramento, CA

Year-Round
(including summer)

For Youth

Event Name and Description	Event Location	Event Date
<u>El Dorado Farm Day 2019</u> Third grade classes are invited to a day of fun, hands-on experience, and agricultural lessons. Interactive displays include subjects like nutrition, land stewardship, and more!	El Dorado County Fairgrounds	May 7, 2019
<u>Hilmar Cheese Company School and Youth Tours</u> Join us for the most fun and educational field trip in the Central Valley! Free for all public, private and home schools associated with a school district. Organized and led by trained tour guides, safe and fully accessible. All students receive free cheese samples, a hairnet, Daisy's Dairy "ABCs" and a souvenir pencil.	Hilmar, CA	Year-Round
<u>AgVentures! Learning Center</u> Tours of the Learning Center are available year-round for elementary school students. Cost is \$3 per student.	Tulare, CA	Year-Round

Show Your Support for Agricultural Literacy

Help us continue providing programs and materials that create an awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students. Make a [donation](#) today!

Stay Connected! @LearnAboutAg



Forward to a Friend

