Fantastic Ag Fact:
The pod color of snap beans can be green, golden, purple/red, or streaked, but the beans inside the pod are always green.

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• **Support LearnAboutAg®**

Suzanne Squires, CFAITC’s 2019 Outstanding Educator of the Year, received a 2020 National Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award! Suzanne teaches at Los Olivos Elementary School in Santa Barbara County! Congratulations on your achievement!

**Celebrating National Agriculture Week**

March 27, 2020 - Clarksburg, CA

We are excited to host our Northern California special event at Silt Wine Company in Clarksburg. Silt Wine Company was honored in 2019 by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce with the 2019 Small Business of the Year Award. The venue is situated on the grounds of an estate vineyard with beautifully manicured gardens in a reclaimed historic barn with rustic charm. Mingle with your friends and get to know new ones while enjoying live music, heavy hors d’oeuvres and hosted wine and beer.
Register Online Today

Registration is Open - Join Us!
2020 CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference
September 24-26, 2020
Ventura, CA

Register now to attend the 2020 CA Agriculture in the Classroom Conference! Come and learn about the importance of educating our youth about food and fiber through all subject areas. The program at a glance and hotel accommodation information is now available!

Learn More about the Conference!

Looking for more ways to be involved?
Present a Workshop
Be an Exhibitor
Host a 'Taste of California' Dinner
Teacher Feature

**Florencia Rivera**  
*Grade taught:* Third Grade  
*School:* McKinley Elementary School  
*County:* San Joaquin

1. **How and when did you first learn of Ag in the Classroom?**  
Ag in the Classroom has been a community partner who supports educators who wish to incorporate or integrate agriculture into their classrooms. I have been hooked on Ag in the Classroom since I started teaching third grade beginning in the 90's. Agriculture is an integral part of the Stockton community and San Joaquin county. With a majority of our students' families having strong farming backgrounds agricultural topics fit well into my classroom. I have had the pleasure of attending trainings offered by San Joaquin County Ag in the Classroom and Ag in the Classroom which have deeply impacted my passion for agriculture.

2. **How long have you been teaching students about agriculture?**  
I began teaching agriculture and nutrition with my first batch of third grade students had the opportunity to attend an AgVenture field trip to learn more about the agricultural crops that are grown in San Joaquin County. That was way back in the '90s and my students still continue to go each year. California Dairy Council also provides resources to schools to teach Healthy Choices.

3. **What is your favorite AITC program/resource/event and why?**  
My favorite event is the California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. I have attended at least the last two conferences and I consider them the best agricultural experience ever! We teachers learn from the experts, go to amazing field trips, and go back to our classrooms with bags full of resources to support our instruction. Another favorite is the taste tests where students learn about crops grown in California and the experience of observing and trying the fruits and
vegetables. Students also learn about the nutritional benefits from consuming these commodities. Taste tests have the most impact for my students because they are able to study the crop in depth and in the process develop a liking for the commodity that they have not tried before, developing lifelong healthy habits.

4. Describe any agriculture-based projects you have been involved in lately.
Most recently, we participated in the monthly Pick-a-Peck program to learn more about California-grown commodities and nutrition. This project provided opportunities for students to learn and try different fruits, nuts, and vegetables that are locally grown while learning the healthy benefits from them. In January this year, we attended the AgVenture Field Trip, held in Stockton, to learn more and reinforce their knowledge of agriculture.

5. Do you have any advice for other teachers on implementing agriculture into the classroom?
Integrating Agriculture in the Classroom does not take a lot of effort and preparation on the teacher's part. It is complementary to what the students are already learning in school. It can be integrated in English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, and all other subject areas. It is a lot of fun and can spark a lot of interest and enthusiasm from the students. After all, agriculture has a very visible presence in California because it is a major industry in our state. It just makes sense to integrate agriculture in our instruction. Getting resources is not a concern at all. Agriculture in the Classroom has compiled all helpful resources that you need to teach agriculture. Agriculture in the Classroom has very knowledgeable and supportive staff who can attend to your agricultural queries.

**Featured Resource**

*What's Growin' On? Props to Specialty Crops*

**18th Edition NOW available!**
In this edition of What's Growin’ On? we explore the nutritious foods California has to offer!

Teachers:
- You can participate in the student evaluation of What's Growin' On? if you teach 3rd-8th grade! We are offering a $150 stipend to the first 15 qualified educators. [Apply here!](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/dashbord/home/#!/)
- Request a classroom set (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 resources will be a great addition your classroom!

**Request This Resource Today!**

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### Grant Feature

**ecoSolution Grants**

The ecoSolution Grants are available to support youth-led environmental projects. Grants for $500 - $2,500 support the purchase of materials and expenses related to implement the project.

- Applications open March 15, 2020
- Applications are due July 15, 2020

[Click here for more information!](#)

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### More Ways to Learn About Ag®

**California Farm to School Conference**

The California Farm to School Conference will take place March 26-27 in San Diego, California. The two-day conference will focus on empathy and collaboration, with an emphasis on establishing "complete" farm to school programs that coordinate student voice, local food procurement, education in classrooms and cafeterias, and experiential learning in school gardens, agriculture and culinary programs, farm tours, and other related activities. Find out more [here!](#)

**National Farm to Cafeteria Conference**

The 10th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference will be help April 21-23, 2020 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This conference, hosted by the National Farm to School Network, is the only national gathering of Farm to Cafeteria stakeholders from throughout the country. Find out more [here!](#)

**Want to go to Salt Lake City next summer?**

Mark your calendar for June 23-26, 2020. Attend the 2020 National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.
Surround yourselves with educators passionate about incorporating agriculture into their classrooms! Find out more [here](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/dashboard/home/#/)

**On the Farm STEM Event**
The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's On the Farm STEM event will be held July 7-10 in Nashville, TN. This event is designed for STEM educators who want to learn more about NGSS curriculum. Attendees will hear from beef farmers and ranchers, researchers, nutritionists and veterinarians through tours and visits. Apply today to attend! Applications close March 6, 2020. Find out more [here](https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/dashboard/home/#/)

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### Community Events

#### For Educators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name and Description</th>
<th>Event Location</th>
<th>Event Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Life Lab Workshops</strong></td>
<td>Santa Cruz, CA</td>
<td>Upcoming Workshops:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Life Lab has trained tens of thousands of educators across the nation! Sign up today for one of their many workshops, spring through summer! | | - March 6  
- March 19-20  
- April 3  
- April 16-17  
- July 23-24  
- September 11  
- September 24-25  
- October 24 |

| **Powerhouse Science Center** | Sacramento, CA | Year-Round (including summer) |
| 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). | |

#### For Youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Name and Description</th>
<th>Event Location</th>
<th>Event Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Solano County Youth Ag Day</strong></td>
<td>Vallejo, CA</td>
<td>March 17, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Ag Day is a collaborative effort of the Solano County Fair Association and agricultural related businesses, organizations, farmers, ranchers and other individuals to encourage Solano County third graders to experience agriculture firsthand. This fun and educational event is free to all 3rd grade classes in Solano County and features a wide variety of hands-on rotational learning stations and displays. Activities are designed to give children the opportunity to learn about food and fiber production from new perspectives, with a particular emphasis on the agricultural wealth of Solano County.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Name</td>
<td>Location/State</td>
<td>Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>San Benito County Farm Day</strong></td>
<td>Tres Pinos, CA</td>
<td>March 17, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Day is organized for the sole purpose of increasing awareness of the positive contributions that agriculture makes to our local community and economy. All 3rd graders countywide are invited to attend and spend the morning immersed in agriculture. Each Farm Day is larger than the last. For reservations contact San Benito County Farm Bureau.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kings County Farm Day</strong></td>
<td>Hanford, CA</td>
<td>March 19, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>A collaborative effort on the part of Kings County Farm Bureau, the Kings County Office of Education and the Kings Fair, Farm Day strives to teach the next generation of consumers about the positive contributions farming makes to the community and the local economy. For more information contact Kings County Farm Bureau.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>California State Fair Farm and Forest Tours</strong></td>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
<td>April 7 - May 7, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get an Outdoor Classroom Experience with K-6th Grade Farm &amp; Forest Tours at the California State Fair Farm. Bring your students to a living classroom, get outside, tour our farm, eat fresh food, learn about worms and more! See actual crops including a functioning greenhouse on the 3.5-acre working farm. Reservations now open!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yolo County Farm Bureau Farm Connection Day</strong></td>
<td>Woodland, CA</td>
<td>May 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yolo County students in grades K-6 are invited to the Yolo County Fairgrounds to spend their day learning about and experiencing agriculture from the industry's experts!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>El Dorado County-Placerville Farm Day</strong></td>
<td>Placerville, CA</td>
<td>May 5, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farm Days are fun, hands-on field trips where lessons of agriculture and its role in our everyday lives, our county, and its economy are taught in the context of local farms, ranches, forests, and watersheds. Registration is available to all 3rd grade classes in El Dorado County. Students and teachers experience the sights, sounds, smells and feels of agriculture at Farm Day. Throughout the day, students and their teachers rotate to 6-8 different learning stations to learn about farms, natural resources, food, nutrition and animals.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Teachers' Ag Seminar</strong></td>
<td>Bakersfield, CA</td>
<td>July 13-15, 2020</td>
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<td>Discover different ways to bring agriculture into your classroom by learning hands-on experiences from local farmers and ranchers. The seminar will include presentations, tours, activities and free resources for your classroom. REGISTRATION is $60 before June 1 and $75 afterwards. CONTACT <a href="mailto:kernag_ed@yahoo.com">kernag_ed@yahoo.com</a> for a registration form.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>McKellar Farms</strong></td>
<td>Ivanhoe, CA</td>
<td>Fall and Spring</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKellar Family Farms is located in the heart of the world's most productive agricultural region -- California's Central Valley. Farmers around here feed the world. Literally! We can't wait to take you on a behind-the-scenes tour of our citrus farm. Come and let your senses run wild as you see, taste, touch, feel and smell some of California's juiciest gems!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hilmar Cheese Company School and Youth Tours</strong></td>
<td>Hilmar, CA</td>
<td>Year-Round</td>
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<tr>
<td>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 &quot;ABCs&quot; and a souvenir pencil.</td>
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https://app.constantcontact.com/pages/dashboard/home/#/
AgVentures! Learning Center
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

California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom,
2600 River Plaza Drive Ste 220, Sacramento, CA 95833

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient’s email};
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Sent by info@learnaboutag.org in collaboration with

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