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# FALL 2025

## SAVE THE DATE, AG EXPO IS BACK

April 7-9, 2026 | 3rd and 4th Grades

Visit [www.mchenrycfb.org](http://www.mchenrycfb.org) under Education Tab or call the office at 815-338-1520 to reserve your spot.

## ROADS, RIVERS & RAILS

Join Illinois Ag in the Classroom in celebrating the 100th anniversary of historic Route 66 with our collection of activities, texts, and resources on roads, rivers, and rails in agriculture. [www.agintheclassroom.org/programs-events/roads-rivers-rails](http://www.agintheclassroom.org/programs-events/roads-rivers-rails)

## AWESOME AGRICULTURE: Scientific Reasoning from the Farm to the Classroom

Learn about each of our agriculture focus areas with a thought-provoking question and watch a video answer from an Illinois farmer. Then dig deeper with a multitude of accompanying lessons and resources.

Visit Awesome Agriculture ([agintheclassroom.org](http://agintheclassroom.org)) for videos and lessons

## PUMPKINS! PUMPKINS! PUMPKINS!

Learn about the various kinds, history, life cycle, how they get into Thanksgiving pie, AND try a tasty treat we will make together! For 1st grade students. Call or email to reserve your October classroom presentation. Available times fill up fast.

## Teacher Grant Applications NOW OPEN! For the 2025-2026 school year.

Book Grant: stock your classroom with our favorite ag-accurate books!

Project Grant: incorporate a new agriculture-based project into your classroom with materials funded by us! <https://www.agintheclassroom.org/programs-events/teacher-grants>. Attend an online Virtual Get-A-Grant workshop Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 10:00

Ag in the Classroom is: classroom activities, lesson plans, and resources to engage and help your students appreciate agriculture in their communities and the important role it plays in their lives.

## Mark your Calendars! SAI 2026

Summer Ag Institute for Teachers.

June 16, 17, 18, and 19

Visit farms and ag related sites. Staff specialists will provide in class activities set to Common Core and Next Gen standards. Professional Development hours or 2 hours of Graduate Credit available. Lunches are provided!

## Free Agriculture-themed resources to help kids grow in every class.

Visit our Ag in the Classroom website for lessons, activities, book recommendations, virtual field trips and other fantastic resources.

<https://www.agintheclassroom.org>

## FREE AG MAGS!

Embark on your agricultural literacy journey with FREE text resources for all grade levels.

Topics: Apple, Beef, Careers, Corn, Dairy, Farmers' Market, Illinois, Nutrition, Pizza, Pollinators, Pork, Pumpkin, Specialty Crops, Soil, Soybeans, Sustainability, Transportation, Water, Wheat

Available online at <https://www.agintheclassroom.orgteacher-resources/ag-mags-readers>

Call or email for hard copies.



[www.agintheclassroom.org](http://www.agintheclassroom.org)





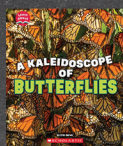
# FREE BOOKS

Ag Related stories for kids

3 Books per teacher 1st come 1st served

subject to availability

Email: mcfbaitec@att.net



**A Kaleidoscope of Butterflies** What do you call a group of butterflies? A kaleidoscope! Discover why this interesting insect lives in groups, where they live, and what they eat. This book takes you inside a chrysalis, tells you what a butterfly keeper does, and teaches you what you can do to help conserve and protect butterflies.

Grades  
K-2



**Linh's Rooftop Garden** Linh searches for blueberries in her rooftop garden in this vibrant exploration of gardening and healthy eating. Young readers hunt for visual clues and compare and contrast the unique characteristics of blueberries against peaches, strawberries, tomatoes and other produce that grows in Linh's rooftop garden.

Grades  
K-3



**What's in Your Pocket?** Meet nine scientists who, as kids, explored the great outdoors and collected "treasures": seedpods, fossils, worms, and more. Observing, sorting, and classifying their finds taught these kids scientific skills--and sometimes led to groundbreaking discoveries.

Grades  
K-4



**Outdoor Farm, Indoor Farm** Discover how both outdoor and indoor farms sustainably grow the food we eat throughout the year. Explore the inner workings of an outdoor farm and an indoor farm. You'll see how a variety of amazing machinery like tractors and drones along with innovative farming techniques yield the wonderful food we all love to enjoy.

Grades  
K-4



**Under Your Feet** Delve beneath the Earth's surface and explore the diverse wonders hidden there. Encounter creatures of the deep and marvel at the mind-boggling size of the humongous fungus - the biggest organism in the world. Learn how one handful of ordinary soil contains more organisms than there are people on Earth, and carry out experiments using dirt from your own back garden.

Grades  
K-4



**The Great Big Water Cycle Adventure** The same water has been falling as raindrops for billions of years. It travels around our planet again and again. The water on Earth is in glaciers, rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs. It is used by plants, humans and animals. Follow the journey of a young boy and girl as they float, splash and slide through the incredible water cycle story.

Grades  
K-4



**Three Strike Summer** When the skies dried up, Gloria thought it was temporary. When the dust storms rolled in, she thought they would pass. But now the bank man has come to take the family farm, and Pa's decided to up and move to California in search of work. They'll pick fruit, he says, until they can save up enough money to buy land of their own. Well, Gloria Mae Willard isn't about to organize any peaches. She's got more on her mind than that. Like the secret, all-boys baseball team she's desperate to play for, if only they'd give her a chance.

Grades  
4-7



The Labors of Hercules Beal Herc Beal knows who he's named after—a mythical hero—but he's no superhero. He's the smallest kid in his class. So, when his homeroom teacher at his new middle school gives him the assignment of duplicating the mythical Hercules's amazing feats in real life, he's skeptical. Herc figures out how to take his first steps along the road that the great Hercules himself once walked. Soon, new friends, human and animal, are helping him. And though his mythical role model performed his twelve labors by himself, Herc begins to see that he may not have to go it alone.

Grades  
5-9



Here in the Real World Ware can't wait to spend summer "off in his own world"—dreaming of knights in the Middle Ages and generally being left alone. But then his parents sign him up for Rec camp, where he must endure "Meaningful Social Interaction". On his first day while looking for refuge from Rec camp, Ware meets Jolene at the half-demolished church in the abandoned lot next door. She calls him a dreamer—he doesn't live in the "real world" like she does. When their secret space is threatened, Ware against all odds, vows to save the lot and figures out "What does it take to be a hero?"

Grades  
5-9