



Plan Your Route

Use agriculture as a context to deliver your content

Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix



Search by keyword, grade, subject, standard, or agricultural literacy outcome



Use integrated companion resources to diversify your instruction



Explore high-quality K-12 relevant and engaging instructional resources



Add resources to MyBinder, your own personal online binder



Teacher Center

Explore and use our free lesson plans and companion resources. Learn more about your state program and grant opportunities.

agclassroom.org/matrix



Store

Order teacher-tested kits, maps, and models to save time and enhance learning.

agclassroomstore.com



Student Center

Ready-to-use resources including AgBadging, state ag facts, readers, games, virtual tours, and more!

agclassroom.org/student



NATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL LITERACY

The National Center at Utah State University develops resources, conducts research, and provides opportunities for professional learning.

agliteracy.org

Making it Easy

THEMES FOR LEARNING GRADES K-5

- School Garden Center
- Pollinator Palooza
- Hatching Science Center
- Diversity-Focused Literature
- What's the Source?



COURSE TOPICS GRADES 7-12

- Integrated Science
- Geography
- Biology
- World Geography
- AP Human Geography
- Environmental Science
- American History
- Family and Consumer Sciences

Themes for Learning & Course Topics

Cultivate an understanding of our quality of life and our environment



Learning for a Sustainable Future

Our basic needs have increased demands for our natural resources. A sustainable future requires that we understand where we have been and where we are going. Each state's and territory's Agriculture in the Classroom program provides resources and professional development opportunities to address agricultural literacy—the understanding of how our basic needs (food, clothing, and shelter) are met every day. These programs provide training and resources that promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills using project-based learning to contextualize how productive, sustainable agriculture affects our quality of life and environment.

[Learn more about your state or territory program on agclassroom.org](http://agclassroom.org)

Where do I begin?



This QR code provides a curated Curriculum Matrix list of lesson plans that will get you started with engaging classroom instruction/activities. See the brief descriptions below. This is just the beginning! You'll find additional lesson plans in the Curriculum Matrix that add meaningful context to your content.



Explore Our Land Resources

Students explore our limited land resources and investigate soil management for a sustainable future. The Journey 2050 lesson plans provide additional content related to land and water for a growing population.

Topics Covered In These Lessons:



What's Our Soil Worth
(Grades 3-5)

Land and Soil in the Ecosystem
(Grades 6-8)

Earth's Land and Soil Resources
(Grades 9-12)

Make a Connection to Agriculture



A Search for the Source (Grades K-12)

Engage students in a relay-race game to determine where everyday things come from. The end result is that agriculture provides nearly all the products they use every day, with the support of the natural world.



My Farm Web (Grades K-5)

Using a concept map strategy, students construct a food web to explore the role of agriculture in their daily lives. This exploration demonstrates how most of what we use every day can be traced back to the farm.



Planet Zorcon (Grades 6-8)

Through a simulation, students visit a distant planet that will hopefully provide for their basic needs (food, clothing, shelter, and water). Students explore the connection between their behaviors and the resources on planet Zorcon.

Evaluate your Sphere of Influence

When it comes to current events and real-world issues in science and society, students often have difficulty sorting facts from opinion and viewing issues from multiple perspectives. It is important for students to understand that opinions are often based on biases, beliefs, and values rather than facts and evidence. Educational standards promote using evidence to approach and address conflicts, issues, and differences of opinions. Agricultural issues are relevant and provide students an opportunities to evaluate evidence and inference and incorporate the viewpoints of others to address plausible solutions to complex problems.

To demonstrate and explore different points of view, write the numbers 1-4 or 1-6 on a ball, as they would appear if the ball were a die. Explain to the students that the ball represents an issue. Holding the ball in the front of a classroom, ask students from different locations in the room, "Which number(s) do you see?" After they state the number, ask, "Are you sure you see that number?" Then ask, "If the ball is representing the same issue, why are each of you seeing different numbers?" Explain that each person has a "point of view" and that when looking at or discussing issues, people may use facts, opinions, or personal biases to defend and persuade others to see their point of view.

(Issues and different roles/viewpoints on the issues can be found in this companion resource.)



Resolving issues and evaluating situations requires that we look at the viewpoints of others to arrive at workable solutions, to form realistic conclusions, or to make our own evidence-based decisions. Have a ball! And remind students that it is okay to agree to disagree while finding solutions.