**Harvest FarmChat - Horizon Elementary**

Theme: Harvest, Corn

Date: Friday, November 1, 2013

Grade: One 3rd grade class (24 students)

Contact Teacher: Kendra Elliott

Time: Connect at 2:30 pm End at 2:55 p.m. (Arrive at field by 2 p.m)

**Total Talking Time: 15 minutes Total time for Questions: 10 minutes**

***Cindy Introduction*** (At distance from Steve - showing field) **– 1 minute**

* Describe field location (distance from school) – Show surrounding fields
* Introduce Steve

**Steve Introduction/Overview** (Standing by corn in front of combine) – **3 minutes**

* Overview of farm operation
* Why do you farm, how did you learn to farm?
* Overview of a day during harvest
* How big is the field, How big is an acre?
* How long will it take to harvest this field… all of your crops?
* Describe corn plant
  + How tall, how many ears, how close together are plants?
  + Show ears, where corn is cut off, and stubble left on ground
* What do you do to care for the land? – soil conservation, water quality, etc.

***3 questions from students about Steve’s farm and corn***

**Combine** (start at front and walk to back) – **2 minutes**

* Show a cut off corn stalk – show parts and how it goes into the combine
* Describe it from front to back – main parts, how it works
* How big is the combine, how much does it weigh?
* How much corn does it hold? Describe a bushel.

***3 questions from students about outside of combine and how it works?***

**Inside Cab** (Steve sitting in cab. Cindy standing at door) – **2 minutes**

* Describe inside (seats, controls, monitors, hopper window, radio, air conditioning, etc)
* Describe how you operate the combine

***3 questions from students about inside of combine?***

**Ride-along** (Cindy in cab with Steve) – **1-2 minute**

**Watch from outside combine** (Stop, Cindy climbs out of combine, watch from field) **– 5 minutes**

* Watch Steve finish row, turn around and come back
* Cindy answer questions form students while Steve finishes row and comes back again
* Watch Steve and his son unload on the go
* Cindy explains how corn transported, stored, and sold; what it is used for; etc
* Cindy and Steve answer final questions

**Student Questions:**

***Farming/About Steve***

How long have you been a farmer?

Did you go to college to be a farmer?

Is a farmer's life easy?

What other things do you do?

Where is your farm?

What are your work hours?

What time do you get up?

What do you grow?

Do you grow any popcorn?

***About Corn/Field***

How tall did your corn get this year? (Show corn plant)

What is the area and perimeter of your field?

How long will it take to harvest this field?

How many fields do you have?

How much corn can you harvest in a day?

How many days does it take you to harvest?

**About Combine:**

How many pounds is the combine?

How do you get the kernels to separate from the cob?

How much does a combine cost?

How often do you use the combine?

How many gallons of corn can your combine hold? – Explain Bushels

How long does it take to harvest a field?

How many pounds is the combine?

How many seats are in the combine?

How many people can be in a combine at once?

What does the inside of the combine look like?

Do you ever get hot in the combine?

How do you work the combine?

How many combines do you have?

**Other:**

Do you have other machines than a combine?

How many gallons of corn can your combine hold? – Explain Bushels

Do you have any helpers?

Where do you put all of your corn?

Does your combine ever break down?