Inspiring Young Authors…
Writing About Agriculture!

2022—2023 Contest Theme:
People, Places, and Animals of Iowa’s Agriculture

www.iowaagliteracy.org
Overview:
- A Bushel of Stories is an agriculture writing contest for students grades 3-8 to write a story book about agriculture or food
- Submissions will be accepted until February 28
- There are two age divisions: grades 3-5 and grades 6-8
- Associated lesson units for the program are linked below

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Timeline:
- Contest submissions due: February 28
- Winners announced: April 3
- Book printing and distribution: Late summer

Prizes per division:
- 1st place
  - Book to be illustrated professionally, printed, and made available by IALF to educators free of charge
  - $100 cash prize
  - Plaque for student
  - Certificate and prize for teacher
- 2nd place
  - Name and book title noted on 1st place book
  - $75 cash prize
  - Plaque for student
  - Certificate and prize for teacher
- 3rd place
  - Name and book title noted on 1st place book
  - $50 cash prize
  - Plaque for student
  - Certificate and prize for teacher

Contest rules:
- Students will be responsible for writing a story fitting the year’s theme
- Stories can be fiction or nonfiction
- Though fiction stories may have unrealistic plotlines or characters, the agricultural concepts should still be accurate (for example, a personified ear of corn can give a tour of a corn farm, but the farm should be depicted with accurate corn growth stages, crop care, etc.)
- Books should show agriculture in a positive light
- Books should not use registered trademarks (avoid brand names and taglines)
- Winning stories may be asked to make revisions for content, grammar, and spelling
• Project submission:
  • Please submit each student’s projects separately using this online portal: https://form.jotform.com/222355925306152

• Resources:
  • 3-5 lesson unit
    • Lesson 1—Book Basics
    • Lesson 2—Publication Production
    • Lesson 3—Real Writing
  • 6-8 lesson unit
    • Lesson 1—Book Basics
    • Lesson 2—Publication Production
    • Lesson 3—Real Writing
  • Author Chat! Video
  • Lending Library books
  • Judging Rubrics
  • Student Checklist

• Contact information:
  • For all contest questions, please contact Chrissy Rhodes at crhodes@iowaagliteracy.org or 515-331-4181
  • For more Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation information, please visit www.iowaagliteracy.org