



Inspiring Young
Authors...

Writing About
Agriculture!

2022—2023 Contest Theme:

People, Places, and Animals of Iowa's Agriculture



- 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

- 2022-2023 Theme:

- **People, Places, and Animals of Iowa's Agriculture**

- 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

