Agriculture is a topic that students can easily connect to because they encounter it often. Nearly everything we eat, wear, use -- even the fuel that powers the cars and buses we ride in -- comes from plants and animals grown on farms. Agriculture provides perfect real-world connections and makes learning relevant to students.

Agriculture connections in social studies are abundant! Agriculture relates to geography (What do farmers grow where and why? How does this impact a society’s cuisine, clothing, and shelter?), economics (How does supply and demand change the prices we pay at the grocery store? Can consumer preference, technology, and even weather impact the global economy?), and history (Why did people choose to settle in Iowa? What knowledge of raising crops and livestock did they bring? How has technology on farms changed over time?).

FEATURED 9-12 LESSONS

Economics
- **Filling the Global Grocery Bag** (global food economics)
- **Global Food Security** (hunger: causes and solutions)
- **Global Trade and Interdependence** (economic impacts of the Columbian Exchange)
- **Weighing in on Egg Labels, Supply, and Demand** (supply & demand, consumer choices)

Geography
- **Agricultural Land Use** (land use & conservation practices)
- **Herbs and Spices of the World**
- **Agricultural Production Regions in the United States** (crops, livestock & land use)

U.S. History
- **From Boom to Dust** (Agriculture & the Great Depression, Dust Bowl, & the New Deal)
- **Growing a Nation Era 1: Seeds of Change** (agriculture & history 1600-1929)
- **Growing a Nation Era 2: From Defeat to Victory** (agriculture & history 1930 to 1949)
- **Growing a Nation Era 3: Prosperity and**

(contd.)
IALF has a selection of books, kits, and materials that are free for educators to borrow. In this collection are several non-fiction books that can be used for class projects, book reports, research, or more.

Find the full list of resources, including titles like *The Man Who Fed the World*, *Seeds for Change*, *Outside In: African-American History in Iowa*, at www.iowaagliteracy.org. Email info@iowaagliteracy.org to request materials.

**Challenges (agriculture & history 1950 to 1969)**
- Growing a Nation Era 4: Into a New Millennium (agriculture & history 1970 to 2000)
- Growing a Nation Era 5: Playing by the Rules (agriculture technology from 2001 to present)
- Growing a Nation Era 5: Growing Technology (agriculture & mobile Apps)
- King Cotton (cotton, history & culture)
- The Cattle Drive and Westward Expansion (population growth & cattle drives in the 1880’s)

**World History**
- The Columbian Exchange of Old and New World Foods (impact of the Columbian exchange)

**Technology & Change**
- Father of the Green Revolution (Norman Borlaug’s impact)
- FARMLAND: Family Farming (U.S. Farm size, technology & population growth)
- GMO Decisions (Technology & Good Production)
- Managing the Threat – Soybean Aphids (Careers, Innovation, & Agriculture)

**Food Issues**
- Journey 2050 (Sustainability ability as it relates to food production, natural resources, economics, and more)
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 1: Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 2: Plant Health
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 3: Water
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 4: Economy
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 5: Land Use
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 6: Careers for 2050 and Beyond!
  - Journey 2050 Lesson 7: Technology and Innovations
- Research, Debate, and Persuade: Food Issues
- Looking Under the Label (Evaluating food choices using claim, evidence, and reasoning)
- The Role of Women in Agriculture (global numbers & impact)
WHERE DOES AGRICULTURE FIT INTO THE IOWA CORE STANDARDS?

Economics & Financial Literacy
• SS-Econ.9-12.13. Apply the concept of scarcity when making economic decisions.
• SS.5.15. Explain how trade impacts relationships between countries.
• SS-Econ.9-12.14. Use cost-benefit analysis to argue for or against an economic decision.
• SS-Econ.9-12.15. Analyze what goes into determining, and who determines, what is produced and distributed in a market system.
• SS-Econ.9-12.16. Describe how changes in the level of competition can affect price and output levels in specific markets.
• SS-Econ.9-12.17. Explain how changes in supply and demand cause changes of goods and services, labor, credit, and foreign currencies.
• SS-Econ.9-12.18. Evaluate the effectiveness of government policies altering market outcomes.
• SS-Econ.9-12.19. Describe the roles of institutions such as clearly defined property rights and the rule of law in a market economy.
• SS-Econ.9-12.21. Explain why advancements in technology and investments in capital goods and human capital increase economic growth and standards of living.
• SS-Econ.9-12.22. Explain the role of specialization in trade.

Geography
• SS-Geo.9-12.13. Employ maps to display and explain the spatial patterns of human and environmental characteristics.
• SS-Geo.9-12.14. Integrate multiple geographic representations to explain relationships between the locations of places and regions and their political, cultural, and economic dynamics.
• SS-Geo.9-12.15. Use geographic data to analyze variations in the spatial patterns of human and/or environmental characteristics at multiple scales.
• SS-Geo.9-12.16. Analyze relationships and interactions within and between human and physical systems to explain reciprocal influences.
• SS-Geo.9-12.17. Analyze how environmental and cultural characteristics of various places and regions influence political and economic decisions.
• SS-Geo.9-12.18. Evaluate the impact of human settlement activities on the environmental and cultural characteristics of specific places and regions.

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FEATURED RESOURCE
Journey 2050
online game and curriculum

Journey 2050 is a seven-lesson unit covering global sustainability in food production. Lessons also include online gameplay to reinforce learning.
• SS-Geo.9-12.19. Analyze the reciprocal relationship between historical events and the spatial diffusion of ideas, technologies, cultural practices and the distribution of human population.
• SS-Geo.9-12.22. Evaluate how economic globalization and the expanding use of scarce resources contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among countries.
• SS-Geo.9-12.23. Analyze the consequences of human-made and natural catastrophes on global trade, politics, and human migration.
• SS-Geo.9-12.24. Identify and evaluate Iowans or groups of Iowans who have influenced Iowa’s environmental or cultural geography.

U.S. History
• SS-US.9-12.16. Examine labor and governmental efforts to reform and/or maintain a capitalistic economic system in the Great Depression.
• SS-US.9-12.17. Explain the patterns of and responses to immigration on the development of American culture and law.
• SS-US.9-12.18. Analyze the effects of urbanization, segregation, and voluntary and forced migration within regions of the U.S. on social, political, and economic structures.
• SS-US.9-12.20. Analyze the growth of and challenges to U.S. involvement in the world in the post-World War II era.
• SS-US.9-12.21. Analyze change, continuity and context across eras and places of study from civil war to modern America.
• SS-US.9-12.22. Evaluate the impact of inventions and technological innovations on the American society and culture.
• SS-US.9-12.27. Evaluate Iowans or groups of Iowans who have influenced U.S. History.

World History
• SS-WH.9-12.13. Describe the impact of culture and institutions on societies.
• SS-WH.9-12.15. Compare and contrast various economic and labor systems within and across societies.
• SS-WH.9-12.16. Examine the ways in which trade, commerce, and industrialization affected societies.
• SS-WH.9-12.17. Evaluate the consequences of human made and natural catastrophes on global trade, politics, and human migration.
• SS-WH.9-12.18. Assess impact of conflict and diplomacy on international relations.
• SS-WH.9-12.19. Explain the influence of human migrations on patterns of settlement and culture.
• SS-WH.9-12.25. Determine multiple and complex causes and effects of historical events within world history.
• SS-WH.9-12.26. Assess Iowans or groups of Iowans who have influenced world history.