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 food get to us?), economics (What jobs are needed to produce food? What affects decisions about the food we buy?), and history (How is what we eat different than our grandparents? How are farms different?).

**FEATURED K-2 LESSONS**

**Goods & Services Near & Far**
- **Source Search** (products from farms & natural resources)
- **My Farm Web** (products from plants & animals)
- **Corn to Cereal & Cotton to Blue Jeans** (comparing the steps in producing food & fiber)
- **Agriculture Pays** (careers in the production cycle)
- **Many Hats of an Iowa Farmer** (job of a farmer, agriculture careers & technology in farming)
- **Farmers are Superheros, Too!** (job of a farmer)

**Economics: Wants & Needs, Scarcity**
- **A Day Without Agriculture** (products from agriculture)
- **Farm Economics & Food Processing** (steps in corn production & processing)
- **Farming for Everyone Everywhere** (urban agriculture)

**Natural Resources & Environmental Characteristics**
- **Iowa Pork & the U.S.** (Why does Iowa produce so much pork?)
- **Agriculture Across the USA** (comparing Iowa to other states)
- **Caring for the Land** (natural resources)
- **The Soil We Grow In** (natural resources)
- **Water Use** (natural resources)
- **Water Pollution** (protecting natural resources)

**Continuity & Change**
- **Farming Then & Now** (Change over time)
- **John Deere, That’s Who!** (John Deere’s impact)
- **Iowans Who Made a Difference** (agricultural innovators)
WHERE DOES AGRICULTURE FIT INTO THE IOWA CORE STANDARDS?

Kindergarten:
• SS.K.10. Give examples of choices that are made because of scarcity.
• SS.K.14. Compare environmental characteristics in Iowa with other places.

1st Grade:
• SS.1.11. Compare the goods and services that people in the local community produce with those that are produced in other communities.
• SS.1.13. Explain why people have different jobs in the community.
• SS.1.17. Describe how environmental characteristics and cultural characteristics impact each other in different regions of the U.S.
• SS.1.18. Use a map to detail the journey of particular people, goods, or ideas as they move from place to place.
• SS.1.19. Compare how people in different types of communities use goods from local and distant places to meet their daily needs.
• SS.1.21. Compare life in the past to life today within different communities and cultural groups, including indigenous communities.
• SS.1.23. Describe the diverse cultural makeup of Iowa’s past and present in the local community, including indigenous and agricultural communities.

2nd Grade:
• SS.2.11. Evaluate choices about how to use scarce resources that involve prioritizing wants and needs.
• SS.2.12. Identify how people use natural resources to produce goods and services.
• SS.2.17. Explain how environmental characteristics impact the location of particular places.
• SS.2.18. Describe how the choices people make impact local and distant environments.
• SS.2.24. Describe the intended and unintended consequences of using Iowa’s natural resources.

The Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation serves as a central resource for educators and volunteers who want to teach Iowa’s students about agriculture. Information about additional resources, including grants, professional development, and outreach opportunities is available at: www.iowaagliteracy.org.

FEATURED RESOURCE

My Family’s Farm book series

These high-quality books are great for reading aloud in a lower elementary classroom. Each book showcases a real Iowa farm kid and their real Iowa farm, helping explain what happens there in kid-friendly terms. Request copies by emailing info@iowaagliteracy.org.