



Spring Ag Literacy Program

March 2015

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Notes from Hampshire

New

Farm & Forest Expo

We had a great time chatting with homeschoolers, teachers and agricultural education supporters! We handed out some curriculum, helped kids with MyPlate bracelets and Garden In A Glove, promoted the Spring Agricultural Literacy Program and much more. FARMO was once a big hit, especially with t-shirts and antlers as prizes!

Teachers can apply for a scholarship to the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

Agricultural Education License Plate

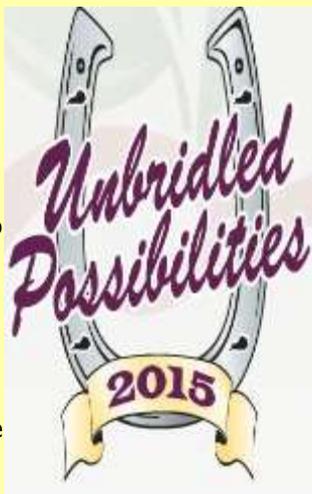
There is currently a bill before the NH House of Representatives for the creation of an agricultural education license plate. Proceeds from this program would support NH Ag in the Classroom, NH FFA, NH Farm to School and a grant program for small agricultural education projects. Please show your support by signing the petition [here](#).

2015 Agricultural Literacy Program

According to National Agriculture in the Classroom, an agriculturally literate individual is "someone who understands the food and fiber system including its history and its current economic, social and environmental significance to all Americans". In order to achieve an agriculturally literate society, NH Agriculture in the Classroom begins in the early elementary grades.

One of the ways this is done is by selecting an agriculturally accurate book each year for the Spring Agricultural Literacy Program. NHAITC then prepares supplementary materials to enhance the book's lessons, rounds up volunteers from across the state and sends them out to visit their local classrooms armed with the selected book and an Educator's Resource Guide. Once the volunteer reads the book, frequently they offer a related activity bringing the information to life. Finally, the book and the Educator's Resource Guide are donated to the classroom or the school library for continued learning. Last year, the program reached

Fifty-five teachers from across the country will be selected to receive a scholarship to the National Convention at the Galt House in Louisville, KY. June 16-20, 2015



[click here for the application](#)

[click here for convention information](#)

Calendar

Come find NHAITC at these events:

NH Council for the Social Studies Conference

March 19th
New Hampton School

Southwick Wellness Fair

April 10th
Southwick School
Northfield, NH

NH Science Teachers Spring Conference

April 11th
Pinkerton Academy in Derry, NH

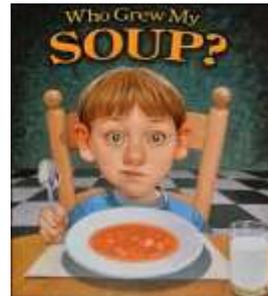
NH Association of Education for Young Children Spring Conference

April 18th
Plymouth State College

Merrimack County School-to-Farm Day

over 3,000 students statewide in grades Kindergarten through 4th.

This year's book is "Who Grew My Soup" by Tom Darbyshire. The delightful tale follows a young boy while he learns about the vegetables in his soup and where they are grown. The story lends itself to several different areas of continued exploration: how plants grow, local agriculture and a healthy diet.



Anyone can join the fun! Teachers, grandparents, parents, siblings, neighbors, agriculture professionals, etc. You just need to get the book, schedule your visit with a classroom teacher and share the book with the students. If you would like to participate in this program, NHAITC provides these materials at a cost of \$5.00 for each set and are available by contacting us at nhaitc@nhfarmbureau.org. For a postage fee of \$2.50, we can mail them directly to you. The kickoff for the program is March 18th, National Agriculture Day, and continues through the end of the school year.

How Crops Are Grown

The "Garden In A Glove" activity is a great way for students to observe the germination and early growth process of a plant. In addition to science, you can add math to the activity by measuring the plants and graphing the results. The book also lends itself to a discussion about the parts of a plant, in particular, what part of the plant we eat. Most students don't realize that we consume the root of a carrot, the seed of corn or the flowers of broccoli.

parts of the plant you eat: click [here](#)
Garden In A Glove: click [here](#)

May 14th
Carter Hill Orchard in Concord, NH

National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

June 16-20, 2015
Louisville, KY
[click here for conference information](#)

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Agricultural Education License Plate

The bill is scheduled to be heard on March 3rd at 11:40 am in the Legislative Office Building, room 203.
Come show your support!

Local Agriculture

As the story unfolds, the young boy embarks on an adventure to find out exactly where the vegetables in his soup are grown. The Educator Resource Guide takes advantage of this opportunity to talk about agriculture in your area. Materials are provided to locate nearby farms which provide commodities for different food groups. Map agriculture in your county and talk about the farms which we have already highlighted from around the state.

We have included an activity developed by National Agriculture in the Classroom based on geography and the story of food for grades 3 through 5. For more information, click [here](#).

NH Department of Agriculture's list of farms: click [here](#)

On this NH Department of Agriculture page, scroll down to "Taste of New Hampshire Agriculture Map" to select your region and many of the farms in that area. click [here](#)

Healthy Eating

Take advantage of students enjoying vegetables by addressing why they should be included in our diet. The USDA [ChooseMyPlate](#) program is a great resource for learning about a healthy diet. Other groups have created activities based on this principal, such as [Nutrition Education for Grades K-12 from Oakland, CA](#)



MyPlate for Educators: click [here](#)

Make Soup!

Assign students different ingredients to bring to class so you can make soup. Depending on the grade level, you can first sort them by color, what part of the plant we commonly eat, if they grow

above or below the ground, etc. You decide who gets to cut up the vegetables!

2 cans diced tomatoes, undrained corn	2 cans
4 potatoes, peeled and cubed cubes	6 bullion
3 medium onions, sliced water	6 cups
4 celery ribs, sliced	1 t salt
4 carrots, sliced	1/2 t pepper
1 bag frozen cut green beans	basil
1 bag frozen peas	oregano

mix all ingredients and cook using one of these methods:

microwave - cook covered on high for 30 minutes, stir and cook on half power another 30 minutes

slow cooker - combine everything except frozen vegetables and cook on high for 6 to 8 hours - add frozen vegetables and cook 2 hours longer or until vegetables are tender

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