

## **Educational Programs & Presentations**

### **Agriculture in the Classroom**

The Farm Bureau and Soil and Water Conservation District of Kendall County have partnered to provide agricultural education to county students and teachers throughout the year. The AITC program targets 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students through regularly scheduled programming focusing on agriculture's importance in our lives. To enroll your class in the program or to request more information, please contact Jenny Wold, Education Coordinator.

### **Conservation in the Classroom**

Conservation in the Classroom is a spin-off of Agriculture in the Classroom focusing on teaching natural resource conservation through scheduled programming in 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. There will be four presentations offered throughout the school year to be scheduled by the classroom teacher. These presentations will be interactive, standard-based, and range between 30-45 minutes. Teachers are free to select the presentations that fit into curriculum best. In addition to classroom presentations, a natural resource tour will be held in May as part of this program. For more information or to enroll, please contact Jenny Wold, Education Coordinator.

### **Incredible, Edible Landfill**

This presentation/activity teaches students about landfill construction, soil information, and recycling. Background information, non-consumable items, and personnel to deliver program are available. Consumable materials for students need to be provided by the class/school at an approximate cost of \$.50 each. This lesson is appropriate for grades 4<sup>th</sup> and up.

Illinois Standards Addressed:

11. B.2c, 12.B.2a, 12.E.2c, 13.B.2c

### **Renewable Resources from the Farm**

This is an interactive lesson in which the topics of renewable and non-renewable resources will be introduced. Students will learn about the application of corn and soybeans as renewable resources. This lesson will conclude with students making their own corn plastic. This lesson also discusses the topics of resources being biodegradable or non-biodegradable.

Illinois Standards Addressed:

12.E.1c, 12.E. 2c, 12.E.3c, 17.C.1c, & 17.C.2c

### **Build Illinois**

Build Illinois is a three dimensional representation of Illinois's geologic history from 500,000 years ago to the present. Using sand and manipulatives, students learn the geologic time line that formed Illinois landforms and organisms. This 45 minute presentation is appropriate for single classrooms (because of the size of the model) in late elementary, middle/junior high school, and early high school.

Illinois Standards Addressed:

12. B.2a, 12.B.2b, 12.D.2b, 12.E.2a, 12.E.2b, 12.B.3a, 12.B.3b, 12.C.3a, 12.D.3a

### **Illinois Jeopardy**

Just as the name implies, this is a game played similar to Jeopardy that concentrates on Illinois features; symbols, agriculture, natural resources, animals, and landforms. This game was created to supplement 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum, but can be played in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade as well.

Illinois Standards Addressed:

12. B.2a, 12.E.2a

### **Agriculture/Nutrition/Earth Day Everyday Jeopardy**

Jeopardy is a fun, interactive way to learn as well as review. This program has jeopardy games prepared for a variety of topics. Three of these you can choose from include Agriculture, Nutrition, and Earth Day Everyday. Jeopardy games can be borrowed or presented by Jenny Wold in classrooms or meeting of clubs or after school programs.

### **Hands-on Soil Science**

This presentation is an introduction to Soil Science. It involves several different hands on activities and can be presented outside when weather is favorable. During the lesson, students will learn about soil composition, profile, texture, and types as well as gain an understanding of the importance of soil. This is a great lesson for high school biology, horticulture, or agriculture students. It would also be appropriate for a political or environmental science course.

Illinois Learning Standards Addressed:

12.A.3c, 12.B.3a & 12.B.4a

## **Additional Classroom/Educator Resources**

### **mAGic Kits**

Available for loan, the kit curriculum (grades 4-8) is multidisciplinary, all inclusive and designed to bring agriculture to life in your classroom. The kits address Illinois Learning Standards in math, science, English language arts, and social studies. Dairy, Soils, Plants, Insects, Poultry & Illinois kits are available immediately.

### **Agri-Learning Kits**

These kits, from the Farm Bureau, are available for loan to elementary teachers. Each kit has one or more activities focused on individual topics, books, videos, curriculum ideas for each, and consumable materials for 30 students. The themes are: Pumpkins, Apples, Pizza, The Wheat We Eat, Adventures on the Farm, and Seasons on the Farm.

### **Agri-Science Kits**

These kits are self-contained science experiments with consumable materials for 30 students. Each kit includes a manual with information needed to successfully complete each experiment. Subject areas are: Corn, Soybeans, Weather, Measurement, Animal Nutrition, Insects, and Genetics. Kits are loaned on the first come, first serve basis.

### **Agriculture/Environmental Curriculum and Activities**

There are many curriculum resources available through the education program. These are located at the Kendall County Farm Bureau office in Yorkville. Teachers can learn about these resources through visiting our office, calling, or checking out our online inventory @ <http://www.kendallswcd.org/education.htm>.

### **Illinois Ag Mags**

“The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Ag Mags are 4-page, colorful agricultural magazines for kids. They contain information about agriculture, bright pictures, classroom activities, and agricultural careers” (<http://www.agintheclassroom.org>). Ag Mags available at the Education Program Office include horses, beef cattle, dairy cattle, soil, water, horticulture, pigs, corn, apples, nutrition, biotechnology, pizza, pumpkins, renewable energy, specialty crop, and trees. Please contact Jenny Wold if you would like a classroom set of any of the available topics.

### **Envirothon**

The Envirothon, sponsored by the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District, is a natural resources competition for high school students. The SWCD would love to sponsor a team from Kendall County for the 2011 competition. During the school year, students study materials (provided by the SWCD) Forestry, Aquatics, Wildlife, and Soils, with an additional annual topic. The teams (5 students) compete against other teams in a 7 county area in April. The winning team will advance to a state competition in Monticello later in the spring.

### **Books/VHS/DVDs**

There are MANY books, VHS, and DVDs relating to agriculture and environmental topics available through the education program. These items can be loaned to classes throughout the year. A full inventory is listed on the program website.

### **In-services/Workshops**

Teachers are offered opportunities to learn about ways to incorporate agriculture and environmental concepts into their classrooms throughout the school year. The district is an Illinois State Provider, offering CPDU's. Three to four free workshops are held each year in addition to a summer graduate course. Additionally, in-services are provided to interested schools or teacher groups by request at no cost. Check out the program website for announcements of upcoming workshops and events.

### **Education Program Website (<http://www.kendallswcd.org/education.htm>)**

Check out the program website for: curriculum, grant opportunities, upcoming teacher workshops & events, student contest information, resource library inventory, program & presentation information, links to great websites, and much more!

*Contact Jenny Wold ([jennywold5@yahoo.com](mailto:jennywold5@yahoo.com)) for more information or to schedule any of the programs or presentations listed in this resource guide.*