



SPRING INTO AG IN THE CLASSROOM



CHICK HATCHING

Coming this April, classrooms around Stephenson County will have the opportunity to share in the excitement of incubating and hatching chicks! There is no charge to participate but we do have a limited number of incubators. Please contact Ms. Debbie to reserve your incubator or with questions.



HOT TOPICS FOR 2024



Happy New Year from Agriculture in the Classroom! Ring in the new semester with lessons about grains, livestock and pollination. Just as in the Fall, each grade from Pre-K through 5th will have a different hands-on activity to learn from and enjoy. This semester's topics are:

TOPICS:

- JANUARY: Soybeans- Cool Beans
- FEBRUARY: Pigs and Their Tales
- MARCH: Corn is A-maize-ing
- APRIL: Positively Poultry
- MAY: The Buzz about Pollinators

WANT TO JOIN THE FUN?

Agriculture in the Classroom has a few openings available for presentations. If you've been thinking about adding a fun learning experience to your classroom, contact Ms. Debbie to schedule a time that works for you. Presentations are available on a monthly reoccurring visit or topic-based visit.



Prep, Freeze, Cook details to come Pickup date: March 13

Enter the Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest!

CALLING ALL TEACHERS! The Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation Poster Contest is now open to all students in Stephenson County and in the following age groups: K-1st, 2nd-3rd, and 4th-6th grades. The deadline to submit entries is February 15, 2024. This year's theme is "MAY THE FOREST BE WITH YOU ALWAYS". Students have a chance to be creative and win prizes. Top posters from the contest will compete at the state level. LAST YEAR'S WINNER IN K-1ST, FINLEY FELDMAN, WON THE STATE CONTEST AND HER POSTER IS HEADING TO THE NATIONAL CONTEST FOR JUDGING IN FEBRUARY. GOOD LUCK FINLEY!



Colby Smith Memorial Tree Program for Third Graders

THIRD GRADE TEACHERS: WATCH FOR A CHANCE TO SIGN UP IN MARCH! EACH STUDENT IN YOUR CLASS WILL RECEIVE A TREE! For over 35 years, Stephenson County Soil and Water Conservation District has sponsored a program that gives each third-grade student a tree/sapling to take home and plant in the Spring.

Colby Smith served on the district board for many years and proudly spoke about receiving his tree in third grade. After his passing in 2005, the program name was changed to honor him.

Summer Ag Institute For Teachers

Summer Ag Institute is a program offering you an opportunity to learn first-hand about Agriculture while earning PDCH or Graduate credits. Join us on June 10 & 11, 2024 for "Awesome and Astounding Agriculture". You will enjoy tours of various farms and agri-businesses throughout Stephenson, Ogle and Carroll counties as well as learn how to incorporate agriculture into your classroom lesson plans. Please contact Ms. Debbie with any questions and stay tuned for more details.