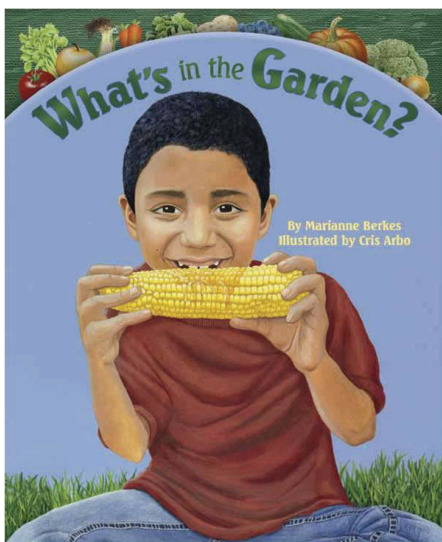


You're Invited...

To share agriculture's story during the 4th annual Agriculture Literacy Week!



*The most rewarding aspects were the
enthusiasm and questions from the
students!*

-2013 Volunteer Reader

Who:

Everyone with a passion for agriculture is invited to read this year's Book of the Year, What's in the Garden?, to PK-2 students.

When:

Agriculture Literacy Week will be celebrated March 23-29, 2014.

How:

Purchase books for \$7 from AITC by February 28. Order form is enclosed and online at www.agintheclass.org

Enclosures:

Book Order Form,
Reader's Guide and
Tips Sheet, Student
Handout, Optional
Activity



2014 Agriculture Literacy Week: Book Order Form

Name/County: _____

Contact Person: _____

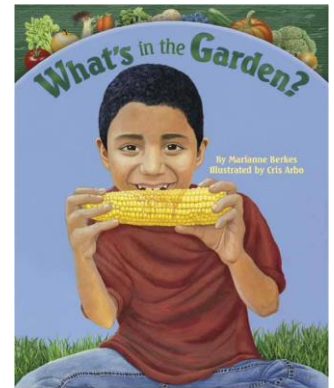
Shipping Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

How many classrooms do you plan to read to? _____

How many children do you plan to read to? _____

How many volunteer readers plan to participate? _____



Orders must be accompanied by a check made payable to the
Virginia Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

	Price per Unit	Total
Quantity: _____	\$7.00	_____
Additional Resources (see back of sheet)		_____
Merchandise Total (books + additional resources)		_____
Tax	5.3% (merchandise total x .053=)	_____
Shipping FREE to County Farm Bureau Offices <i>\$7 for mailing to all other addresses</i>	FREE to County Farm Bureau Offices	County: _____
Total Due (merchandise + tax+ shipping)		_____

Questions? Contact AITC at aitc@vafb.com or 804-290-1143

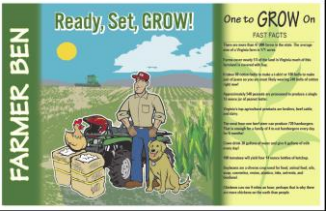
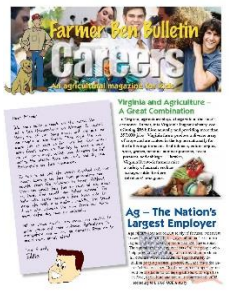
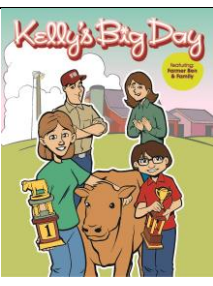
Please send orders to:

Agriculture in the Classroom
Attn: Agriculture Literacy Week
P.O. Box 27552
Richmond, VA 23261



Additional Resources

Agriculture in the Classroom has **limited** quantities of the following resources available for purchase. Please fill out the order form below to indicate your selections and add the sub-total to the front of this sheet.

Resource	Price	Quantity	Total Price
	Farmer Ben Placemats \$10.00 per/100 pack	_____	\$ _____
	Farmer Ben Career Bulletins \$5.00 per/25 pack	_____	\$ _____
	Virginia Agriculture Map Puzzle \$3.75 each	_____	\$ _____
	Kelly's Big Day book \$7.00 each	_____	\$ _____
	Pencils \$2.75 per/25 pack	_____	\$ _____
Additional Resources		Total	\$ _____

2014 Agriculture Literacy Week: Volunteer Tips and Readers' Guide

Thank you again for participating in Virginia's Agriculture Literacy Week. We hope you will find the tips below helpful in preparing for your classroom visit.

Getting Started: The book is best suited for preschool through second grade students. Contact a local school and introduce yourself as well as the project. Be sure to schedule well in advance, as many teachers make their lesson plans several weeks ahead of time. Order your book(s) from AITC and gather any supplies you may need including copies. A template for book plates, which can be personalized for your organization, is available for download from the AITC website.

Preparation: Always be over-prepared! Practice reading the book both silently and aloud. Gather any garden or farm related "props" you might be able to bring. Excellent props for this book would be any of the garden crops mentioned as well as their by-products. For example: seeds of corn as well as corn products. A wonderful bonus to the reading would be to bring one of the recipes in the book for students to try. If you choose to do this, make sure to clear any food items with the teacher *in advance* as many schools have various rules concerning food and allergies.

Introduction: Introduce yourself to the students. Share your connection to agriculture. Tell them you will be reading a story that includes riddles about different fruits and vegetables. You will read the clues and they can try to guess the plant described.

Reading: Agriculture in the Classroom suggests reading the riddles and having students guess what the correct plant is. Highlight any information or illustrations on each page in accordance with your comfort level as well as the students' attention span and the time allotted. A Readers' Guide with sample talking points and prompts is included on the back of this sheet.

Post-Reading: Discuss the book with the class. What questions do they have? What is something new that they learned?

Optional Activities: Prior to class, print copies of the enclosed student handout. You may choose to do the handout with the students or to leave them behind for children to take home. You may also choose to do the "Garden Riddles" activity included in this packet.

Wrap-Up: Thank the students for being good listeners and the teacher for allowing you to visit his/her classroom. Leave the book as well as the information card about AITC so that the teacher may access supplemental resources. Visit AITC on the web at www.agintheclass.org for additional hands-on activities for volunteers.

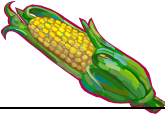


Be Prepared. Be Positive. Be Passionate!



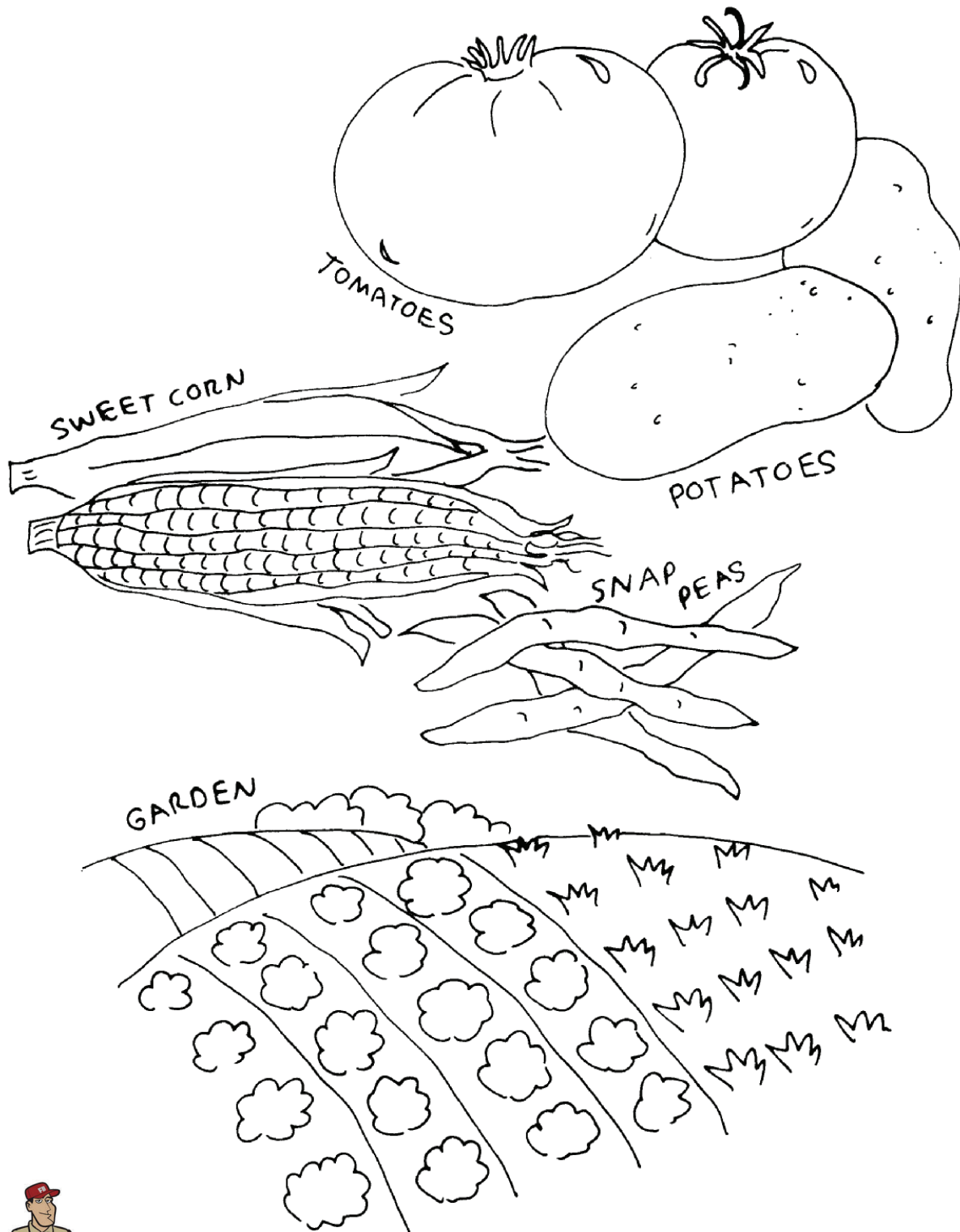
“What’s in the Garden?” Readers’ Guide and Discussion Prompts

Below are suggested classroom prompts and background information. Depending on your comfort level, amount of time allotted, and children’s attention spans you may choose to use any or all of these suggestions to guide your reading and classroom discussion.

Apple Clue Page: What fruit do we pick in the fall that is red, green or yellow? It is growing on tree. 	Lettuce Clue Page: Hint words are “forms a head” and “leaf”. Note - what do rabbits like to eat?
Carrot Clue Page: “Grows in the ground” and orange are key clues. Also, look at the caterpillar. Are they helpful or harmful? They like to eat parts of the plant, which can kill the plant.	Broccoli Clue Page: Look at the tiny flowers starting to form in the center of the plant. The ladybugs and butterflies are helpful insects.
Blueberry Pie Page: A few blueberries are grown in Virginia, but you are much more likely to find strawberries on a Virginia farm. 	Celery Pages: Looking at the stems of the plant you can see its stalks. This is the only highlighted crop not grown in Virginia; it needs a warmer climate. Virginia does produce dairy products and peanuts which both taste great on celery.
Tomato Pages: Point out the little green tomatoes on the vine. This picture also show lots of plant parts; stem, leaves, blossom, and the fruit of the plant. The ladybugs are helpful insects eating up all the aphids which destroy the plant. Is a tomato a fruit or a vegetable? It is both. A tomato, like many other vegetables, is the fruit of the plant containing the seeds. It is classified as a vegetable for cooking and eating purposes.	Cucumber Clue Page: The bee is pollinating this plant. It collects nectar from the flower but gets pollen on its legs. As it moves from flower to flower the pollen is transferred from plant to plant. The running vines will attach to wires and posts as the vine spreads. 
Onion Clue Page: The little girl is watering the plant. Plants need water to grow. Key words for this image are bulb, strong smell, and makes you cry.	Potato Clue Page: Mashed and fried are key words. These are tubers that grow underground. A tuber is an underground stem. The spider is a helpful creature which will eat the potato bug.
Corn Clue Page: Key words are ear, kernel, stalk and tassel. Corn is pollinated by the wind not bees. These bees are collecting pollen which appears early in the morning. The bees need the corn’s pollen but the corn does not need the bees. 	Pumpkin Clue Page: The plant parts are illustrated well with stem, leaf and blossom. This image also shows the flower buds before opening as well as the flower fading with the little green pumpkin starting to form. The cricket is a harmful insect to point out. The yellow jacket is a helpful insect for pollination but beware of its sting.

The Appendix sections of the book, such as “Food for Thought,” “How Does Your Garden Grow,” and “Plant Parts” are full of useful information. It is not, however, necessary to read these sections aloud.

What's in the Garden?



Farmer Ben says—

Virginia farmers grow a variety of fruits and vegetables. The commonwealth ranks nationally in production of tomatoes, string beans, apples, potatoes, grapes, cucumbers, and sweet potatoes.

Create a Farm

Virginia farmers grow and raise many different types of crops and animals. Circle the words in the word bank that are things that belong on a farm. Cross through the words that do not. Then draw a picture of the circled words onto the blank farm below.

WORD BANK

BARN

COW

ZEBRA

CHICKEN

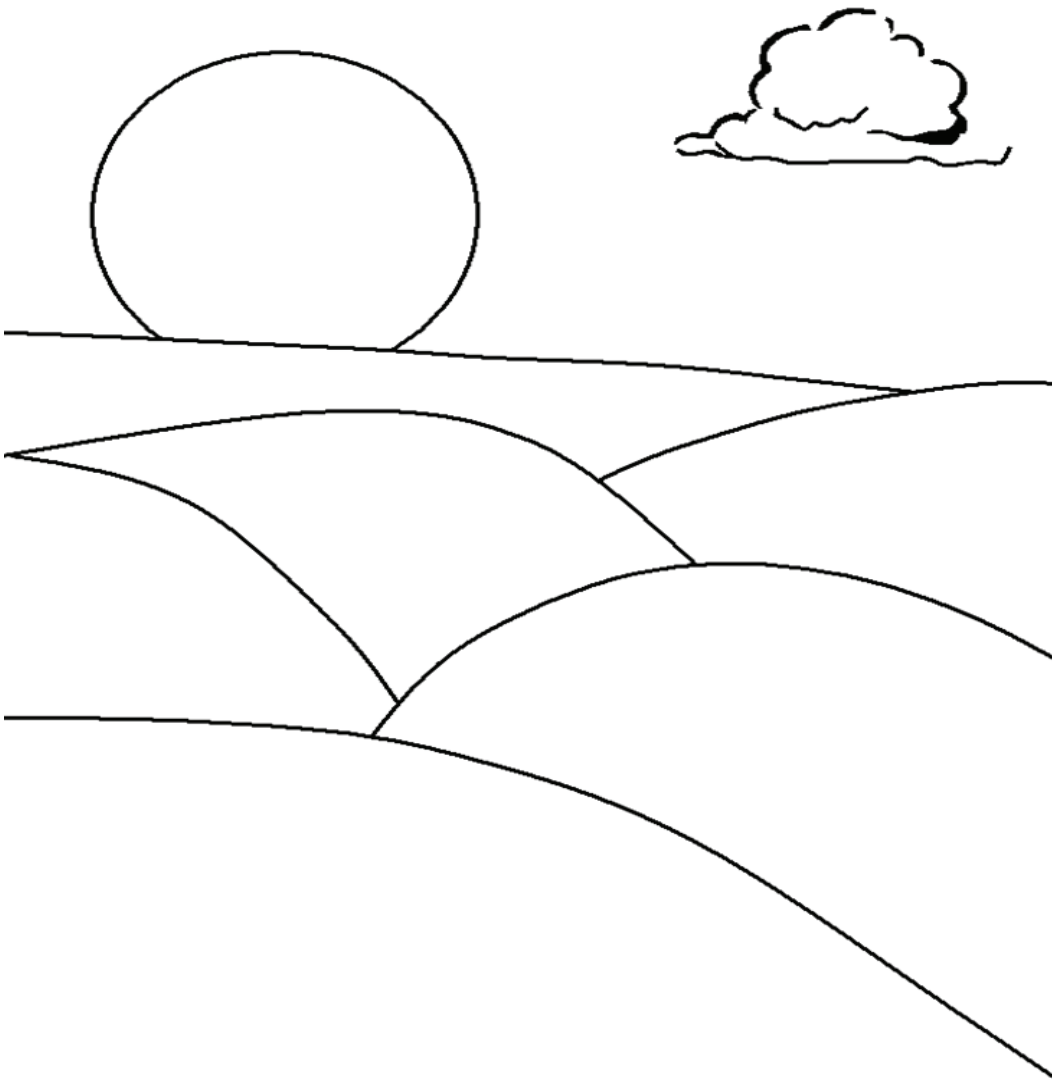
MALL

TRACTOR

TRAIN

FARMER

BEAR



Agriculture in the Classroom is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides resources to schools through the generosity of our donors. We are proud to partner with the many volunteers that make Agriculture Literacy Week successful. To find out more about how you can support Agriculture in the Classroom visit www.AgInTheClass.org.

Garden Riddles

Grade Levels: 1st, 2nd

Learning Goal: The student will be able to describe various fruits and vegetables according to their unique characteristics.

Materials: construction paper, scissors, markers/ crayons

Preparation: This activity pairs especially well with the book What's in the Garden? by Marianne Berkes as the book is told using a series of clues about different fruits and vegetables. These clues are excellent discussion points regarding the different characteristics of various plants.

Directions:

1. Give each student a piece of construction paper. Fold in half vertically (hotdog style).
2. With the fold seam on top, pull the left and right side over to make thirds.
3. Open and place vertically, you will see 6 squares. Cut along the horizontal lines until you reach the vertical line (center fold).
4. Fold back in half along the center fold to create three flaps.
5. On the outside of the flaps, have students create three clues for three different fruits or vegetables – one plant and clue per flap.
6. Underneath each flap have them draw a picture and write the name of the answer.
7. Students can trade with each other and try to figure out each other's clues.

