

AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM



Achieve ♦ Inspire ♦ Teach ♦ Create

Date: November 26, 2012

To: Friends of Agriculture

RE: 2013 Agriculture Literacy Week

Agriculture in the Classroom invites you once again to help tell agriculture's story by participating in "Agriculture Literacy Week." This annual event serves to educate the non-farming public and children in particular, about the importance of Virginia agriculture.

We will be celebrating Agriculture Literacy Week from March 18 through 22, in conjunction with National Agriculture Day, March 19. During this week we ask that you visit a local school, after-school program, or day care and read Kelly's Big Day, the second book in the Farmer Ben series written by Farm Bureau's own, Tammy Maxey. The book is best suited for preschool through second grade children. We invite everyone involved in agriculture to participate, as your brief visit to the school will make a lasting impression on students.

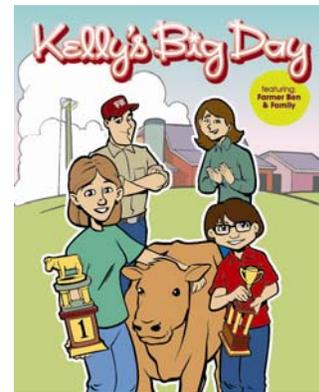
In order to ensure that both you and the students have the best possible experience, we have attached a tip sheet to assist you in your visit as well as an optional post-reading activity booklet, which may be left behind for students to take home. You may purchase a hardcover edition of the book from AITC for \$7. All books must be ordered by February 28. A book order form is enclosed. Along with the book we will send you information about AITC resources to be shared with the teacher. We recommend that you leave the book behind as a gift to the classroom so that it will remain a piece of the classroom library and educate future children.

Please contact AITC (804-290-1143) with any questions. Thank you for your commitment to sharing agriculture's story.

Agriculture in the Classroom

Enclosures: Book Order Form, Teaching Tips, Post-Reading Activity Booklet

2013 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	
Shipping for 1-5 books	\$7.00	
Shipping for 5-10 books Over 10 books, please contact us.	\$10.00	
PICK UP at County Farm Bureau Office (available for Farm Bureau members only)	Shipping is FREE	County:
Would you like to add coloring books? Quantity: _____	\$2.00	
Total		

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



2013 Agriculture Literacy Week: Volunteer Tips

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.

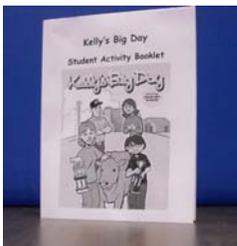
Preparation: Always be over-prepared! Practice reading the book both silently and aloud. Gather any farm related "props" you might be able to bring, such as feed samples, seeds, ear tags, bottles, and other items needed to care for animals. The children will enjoy seeing any "show and tell" items that you bring.

Introduction: Introduce yourself to the students. Share your connection to agriculture. Introduce the book by asking if any students have had any prior experiences with farms. Tell them you will be reading a story about life on a farm.

Reading: Be sure to pause on each page. Clarify any words that students might not know. Spend time discussing the pictures on each page and the many examples of animal care. Children love to ask questions, so be sure to pace yourself.

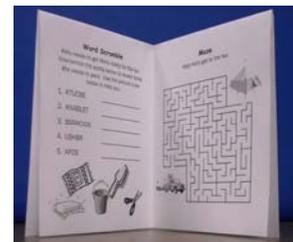
Post-Reading: Discuss the book with the class. What questions do they have? What is something new that they learned?

Optional Activity: Prior to class, print and fold copies of the enclosed activity booklet. You may choose to do a page with the students or to leave the booklet for them to take home.



Directions for Assembling the Booklet:

- Make double sided copies
- Fold in half twice to make a book

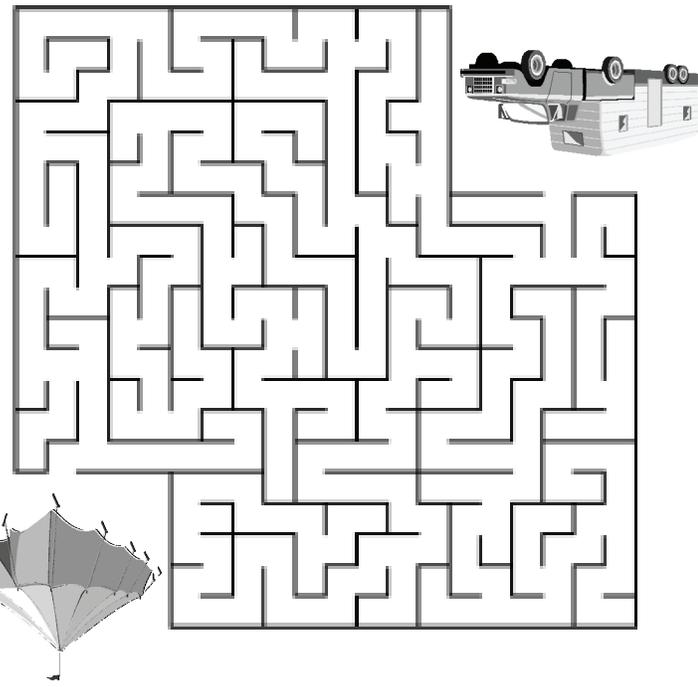


Wrap-Up: Thank the students for being good listeners and the teacher for allowing you to visit his/her classroom. Leave the book as well as the information about AITC so that the teacher may access supplemental resources. Visit AITC on the web at www.agintheclass.org for additional hands-on activities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



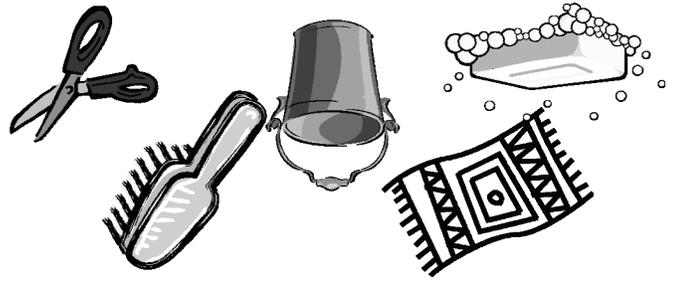
Be Prepared. Be Positive. Be Passionate!





Help Kelly get to the fair.

Maze



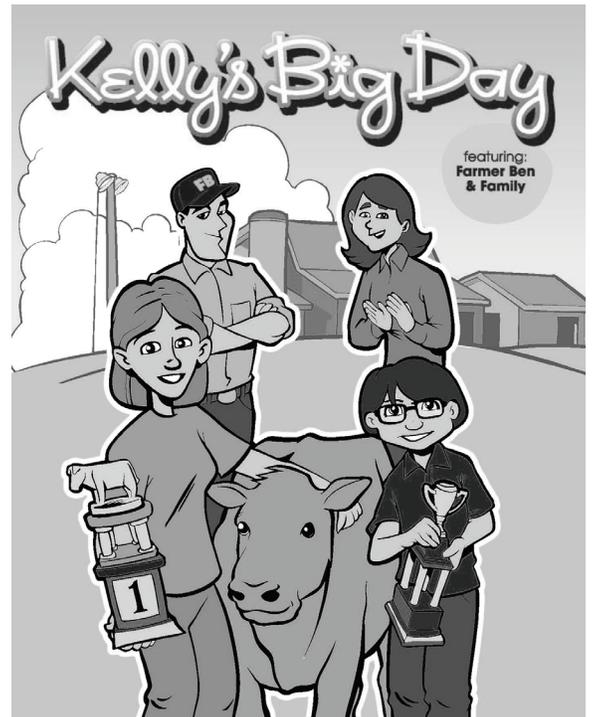
- _____ 1. KTUCBE
- _____ 2. KNABLET
- _____ 3. SSSRCIOS
- _____ 4. USHBR
- _____ 5. APOS

Kelly needs to get Molly ready for the fair. Unscramble the words below to reveal items she needs to pack. Use the picture clues below to help you.

Word Scramble

Kelly's Big Day

Student Activity Booklet



To learn more about Virginia agriculture:

www.agintheclass.org

www.vafarmbureau.org



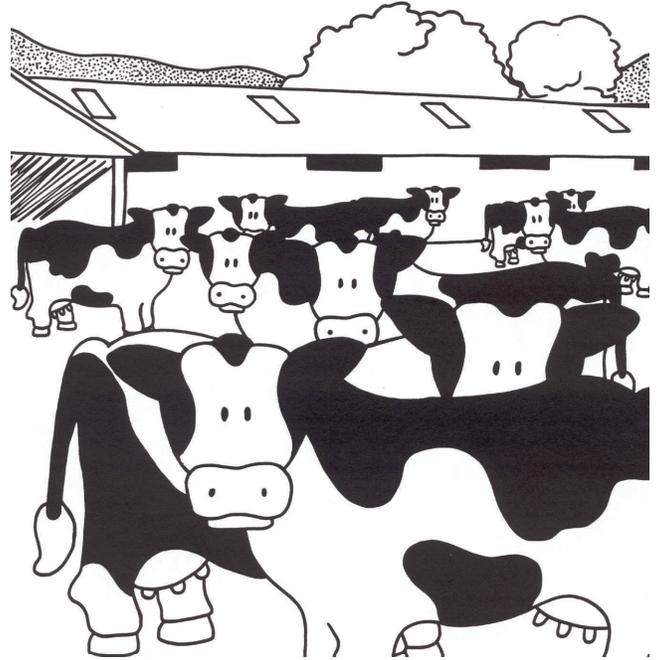
Word Search

G P D U K M L C C X D P D M M
M Q O N Y R V V J L S E W O P
Y P S R D J R B W Z Q L P Q F
C B Y A C O K Z Y C P T K B P
R A I T T R O U G H L Q C I X
T R T C O H V G V E S R O H B
Y U A T Q V B R C L I I T D I
G R T J L P Z A C A X I S D Z
T J S V S E E I R B B U E B Z
N P D J R L Y N H Y P W V T G
W S H T J R J W G M X Q I B T
D D G P T F R O B O U W L T C
P N Q F J F R S C F K Y R F K
S W D I F Z L T K L E O I U A
Q G V W P D D G W N T H A J F

Word Bank:

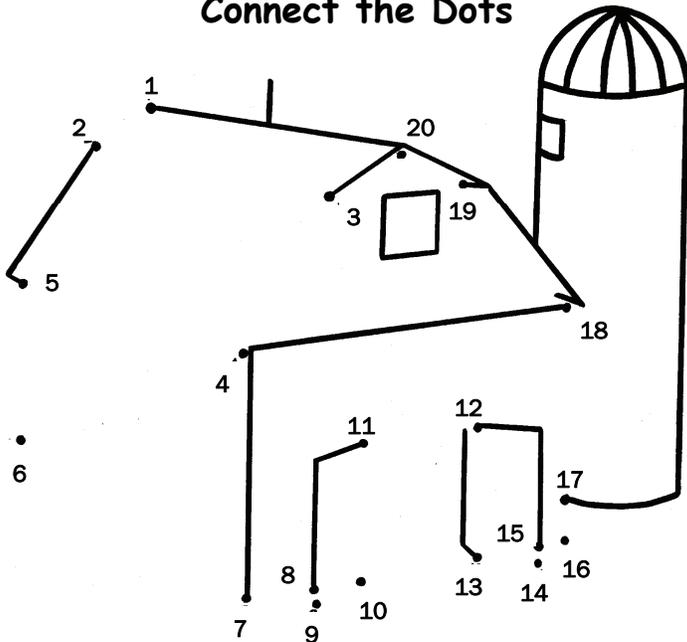
trough	dairy	cattle
grain	livestock	bale
tractor	crop	horse

Count the dairy cows at the neighbor's farm, then color the scene. There are ___ cows.



Did you know? Cows drink about a bathtub full of water and eat 40 pounds of food a day.

Connect the Dots



Did you know? The tall building next to the barn is called a silo. It is used to store food for the animals.

Best in Show

Color and decorate Molly's 1st Place ribbon.

