

# FOUNDATION ON THE FIRST

September 2018



**Kansas  
Foundation for  
Agriculture in the  
Classroom**

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## Agriland

Visit us and other Kansas agriculture groups at Agriland at the Kansas State Fair! From September 7th-16th we will be located on the fairgrounds in the Pride of Kansas Building. This is a free exhibit that will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Agriland provides children with a fun, hands-on experience through Kansas agriculture including crops, soil, equipment and livestock. The Kansas State Fairgrounds are located at 2000 N. Poplar Street in Hutchinson, Kansas. Tickets are available for purchase upon arrival or online. For additional information, please call 620-669-3600 or visit the Kansas State fair website at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com).

## Agritag

Currently, we have over 1,000 Agri-tags on the road! Be a “driving” force to double the message of agricultural literacy with these moving billboards. If you or someone you know are interested in getting an Agri-tag, please visit your county treasurer’s office.

For an annual tax-deductible donation of \$35, you can help further KFAC’s mission of connecting classrooms to Kansas agriculture. The agri-tag is the only agriculture-related specialty tag in the state. Join us in promoting Kansas’ number one industry - agriculture! [Click here for more information!](#)



## A+STEM



KFAC offers half-day in-service trainings for teachers, focused on using agriculture to teach science, technology, engineering and math. This training is customized to each school district to meet their needs. KFAC builds a custom learning plan for each presentation that is interactive and provides teachers with resources to bring agriculture into their classrooms. Sponsorships from Cargill Meat Solutions and Kansas Department of Agriculture assist in covering the cost of the workshop. Our next available workshop is in November. [Click here to schedule your A+STEM Workshop!](#)

## Teacher Feature



Our September Teacher Feature is Melinda Littrell from Bartlett Elementary School in Bartlett, Kansas. Littrell has been teaching for thirty-three years and currently teaches third grade homeroom, along with fourth and fifth grade science classes. Littrell firmly believes that the best things in the world are children and animals. Teaching allows her to be around both while helping her students gain an appreciation and love for animals. Littrell implements agriculture into her classroom through their school green house. Students are able to learn about farm production while they plant, grow, and sell their own plants. Littrell also implements an embryology unit with both chicks and ducklings where students are able to see the different stages a chick or duckling is going through in the egg. Congratulations, Melinda! [Check out her full feature here!](#)

## Donor Feature



This month's Donor Feature is Kansas Corn. Kansas Corn consists of the Kansas Corn Growers Association and the Kansas Corn Commission, who are both dedicated to the future of corn. Kansas Corn is located in Manhattan, KS. Kansas Corn is a Partner level donor. We appreciate your continued support! Visit their website at [www.kscorn.com](http://www.kscorn.com).

## Lesson Plan Feature



**Overview**  
Wheat is the number three commodity crop in Kansas but we are known for being the "Wheat State." Wheat products are found in hundreds of items we buy at the grocery store. Students will make their own "kernel kid" necklace so that they are able to watch their wheat germinate and grow.

**Objectives**  
1. Students will understand the value of the wheat kernel.  
2. Students will create a "kernel kid" necklace that will allow them to watch their wheat germinate and grow.

**Background Information**  
Wheat hasn't always looked the way it looks today. It is a member of the grass family. The two ancient forms of wheat were called emmer and einkorn. Scientists over the years have bred wheat to become the plant it is today.  
The first wheat ever raised for being planted was around 8,000 B.C. The first area we know where wheat was grown was Southwest Asia in countries such as Iraq, Turkey, Syria, and Iran.  
In the late 1400s, the explorer Christopher Columbus brought wheat to North America where he discovered the first fields. In the 1500s, Spaniards brought wheat to Mexico to feed the soldiers. Mexican settlers continued to explore north to convert wheat and finally west into California and grew in the United States. The first record of wheat being grown in Kansas was in 1839 in the current-day Johnson County area.

**Suggested Grade Level:**  
4-5th

**Time:**  
25 minutes

**Subject:**  
Plant Growth & Development  
Agriculture Study

[www.ksgclassroom.org](http://www.ksgclassroom.org)

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The Wheat Germination Necklace lesson plan is for students in 4th-5th grade. Students will learn the importance of wheat. They will also be able to make their own "Kernel Kid" necklace to watch their wheat germinate and grow! [Click here to view the full lesson plan!](#)

## August Wrap-Up

We spent August gearing up for the next school year. Our school year theme rollout was sent to teachers at the beginning of the month. Check out this year's theme, Plants on the Planet. We participated in the Kansas Governor's Agricultural Growth Summit. Briana traveled to Hutchinson

to the Kansas State Fairgrounds to start setting up the Agriland display, provided and managed by many Kansas agricultural groups. We look forward to seeing everyone at the state fair from September 7-16th.

Briana and Cathy



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