

FOUNDATION ON THE FIRST

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**Kansas
Foundation for
Agriculture in the
Classroom**

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Giving Tuesday

KFAC will once again participate in the #GivingTuesday movement this year taking place Tuesday, Nov. 27th. This will be the third year KFAC has participated. The day marks a global day of giving, following the spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday.

KFAC participated in 2017 and raised nearly \$10,000. This year, we are excited to partner with Central National Bank and Farm Credit Associations of Kansas, who will match every donation at \$0.50 on the dollar, making it a DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR MATCH! THANK YOU! Interested in participating or becoming a match donor? Contact KFAC for more information at (785) 320-4350 or info@ksagclassroom.org.

A+STEM



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!](#)



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 October KFAC teacher feature is Karisa Cowan from Hoisington Middle School. Cowan has been teaching for five years and currently teaches sixth grade reading/language arts and science, seventh and eighth grade STEM courses, as well as middle and high school robotics.

Cowan integrates agriculture into her classroom by having her classes perform earth science experiments in the greenhouse. Her students are figuring out different ways to increase yields while learning about alternative growing practices. Cowan teaches about pH, soil health, root systems, and other important earth science concepts through these lessons.

Because Cowan's students are able to do real-life agricultural experiments, such as growing their own plants instead of just reading about it, she believes that her students thoroughly enjoy her classes.

She is looking forward to using a new chick pea lesson plan because most of her students haven't ever tried them before, and she knows her students like to try different foods, especially if they have grown the produce themselves. Congratulations, Karisa! [Click here to view the whole teacher feature!](#)

Donor Feature



This month's Donor Feature is Kansas Soybean. Kansas Soybean is comprised of the Kansas Soybean Commission and the Kansas Soybean Association. Together, they seek to expand existing markets, facilitate agronomic research and communicate goals with individuals in the soybean industry. Visit their website at www.kansassoybeans.org

Lesson Plan Feature

Overview:
The class will take a field trip to the local pumpkin patch where each child will pick out a pumpkin to take back to the classroom to measure the height, weight, and circumference of the pumpkin. The students will draw horizontal and vertical bar graphs and a line plot to record and compare the pumpkin data.

Objectives:
1. Students will collect data by measuring the height, weight, and circumference of their pumpkin.
2. Students will be able to draw a horizontal and vertical bar graph and a line plot to compare their pumpkin data.
3. Students will compare the data and hypothesize why some pumpkins are bigger than others.

Background Information:
Pumpkins, like all plants, need sunlight, water, air, soil, and a proper environment to grow. The height, weight, and circumference of each pumpkin varies depending on these factors.

Vocabulary:
Circumference: The external boundary or surface of a figure or object.
Height: The distance from the bottom to the top of something standing upright.
Weight: The amount that a thing weighs.
Estimate: The approximate value of something (or to put it more simply, a good guess).

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5
Time: Field Trip to a pumpkin patch, Classroom Time: 1 hour
Subjects: Math

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Our Pumpkin Exploration lesson plan is for 3rd graders. Students will measure the height, weight, and circumference of their pumpkin. Students will draw graphs and a line plot to record and compare the pumpkin data! [Click here to visit the full lesson plan!](#)

September Wrap-Up

September was an exciting month here at KFAC! We hosted Agriland at the Kansas State Fair for a day and interacted with hundreds of students across Kansas. We enjoy this partnership with other agricultural businesses across Kansas, as well as the opportunity to educate hundreds

of youth through this interactive display. September also brought board members in for a brainstorming session on how we can improve our delivery methods even more. Stay tuned for some exciting updates!

Briana and Cathy

