

FOUNDATION ON THE FIRST

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**Kansas
Foundation for
Agriculture in the
Classroom**

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Teacher Feature Nominations

Do you know a teacher who has a passion for agriculture and implements agriculture into their K-12 classroom? Nominate them to become our featured teacher of the month with Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom!

Any K-12 teacher who is teaching in a certified school in Kansas in a non-vocational agriculture classroom setting and who is integrating agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula is eligible for this award.

Show your appreciation for a teacher who goes above and beyond to implement agriculture into their classroom. We have teachers who raise chickens to teachers who teach plant growth from start to finish.

Agriculture is a big part of our every day lives in Kansas. Which is why it is important to show our appreciation to teachers who let their students learn about Kansas agriculture! Teachers do not need a strong agricultural background. All teachers need is a love for teaching students about Kansas agriculture! It's that simple!

To nominate a teacher, [click here](#) and fill out the information!



Agri-tag

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!](#)



Giving Opportunities

IRA withdrawals made directly to charity that meet all the requirements are excluded from the tax-payers adjusted gross income, thus avoiding the income tax that would otherwise be owed on the IRA withdrawal. In effect, the withdrawal is a tax free “rollover” rather than a charitable deduction. Such treatment means that taxpayers who don’t itemize deductions (a vast majority of taxpayers under provisions of the new 2018 Federal tax law) can still receive a tax benefit from their generosity. In addition, since these withdrawals reduce adjusted gross income, they may help donors, avoid or reduce income taxes on Social Security benefits, avoid higher Medicare premiums and avoid surtaxes on net investment income.

Plus, to top it off, Charitable IRA Rollovers count toward the account owner’s IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. That’s a lot of potential tax benefits! You can probably tell from this rather extensive list that spending time with your tax advisor should be a priority in order to determine the extent of these benefits for you personally, and in order to coordinate your RMD with any Charitable IRA Rollovers you might choose to do.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



Donor Feature



This month's Donor Feature is Frontier Farm Credit. Frontier Farm Credit is dedicated to serving the agricultural credit, risk management and financial needs of farmers and ranchers. Frontier Farm Credit is headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska.

[Click here to visit their website!](#)

Lesson Plan Feature



Overview
Students will have the opportunity to learn about grain sorghum and have a tasty treat when they are done. This lesson demonstrates that grain sorghum has many uses that go beyond livestock feed and grain flour food items. It can also be popped.

Objectives
1. Students will appreciate the outcome of popping grain sorghum.
2. Students will compare and contrast popped grain sorghum with regular popcorn.
3. Students will apply and understand the real-world use of fractions.

Background Information
Sorghum grain is gluten free. Gluten free foods are needed for people suffering from celiac disease. Celiac disease causes mild to severe distress of the digestive system. Sorghum is naturally high in fiber, protein and iron. It is also antioxidant-rich, which is believed to lower the risk of some health related diseases. These grains are able to be popped because their soft hull easily disintegrates when heated. Unlike making popcorn, you are able to eat the sorghum kernels that did not pop because the hull disintegrated during heating. How do the kernels pop? When they are heated quickly, steam builds and then pushes against the hull. Once it is hot enough and there is enough pressure, the steam pops the kernel.

Suggested Grade Level: One-5th

Time: 20-30 minutes

Subjects: Science, Math

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Our Poptastic Grain Sorghum lesson plan is for second through sixth graders. Students will learn grain sorghum has more uses than just livestock feed and grain flour food items. It can also be popped.

[Click here to visit the full lesson plan!](#)

December Wrap-Up

We wrapped up the year right in December. We were able to meet with a few grant reviewers before the year end, send out our holiday mailing and meet up with a few donors. We also were able to start wrapping up a few new lesson plans, focused on wheat genetics, that will be

out in early 2019. We hope you all had a great holiday season and were able to celebrate with friends and family. We are looking forwards to a great 2019!

Briana



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