New Website

We are excited to announce the launch of our new website! We have completely redesigned our website as well as updated our lesson plans, resources and have included new Kansas Kids Connection Magazines. With the launch of our new website, we are ramping up our Pinterest. Check back next month for more information. Visit our new website at www.ksagclassroom.org!

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!

2019 Teacher of the Year

Nancy Smith, a first-grade teacher at Bentwood Elementary School in Olathe, was recently named the 2019 Janet Sims Memorial Teacher of the Year by Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. Smith is in her 15th year of teaching where she devotes classroom time to monthly agriculture themes including crops, livestock and equipment, technology, and agriculture careers. Her classroom is active, engaged and hands-on.

Check out the rest of Nancy’s story here.

Check out the regional teacher winners here.
**Teacher Feature**

This month’s Teacher Feature is Lesa Searles. Lesa is a 6th grade teacher at Service Valley Charter Elementary School. Lesa’s second-grade teacher, Mrs. Martin, helped Lesa decide that she wanted to pursue a career in education. Lesa is integrating agriculture into her classroom through their school garden. The students are able to learn about the growing process and are completely in charge of their garden. Lesa also brings agriculture into her classroom with the school’s livestock.

“This year my students got to watch our school cows be herded into a trailer by cow dogs, then we were able to take a field trip to the sale barn and watch not only our cows, but many other cows be sold. My students got to see first-hand the many jobs and aspects other than just feeding and taking care of the cows that goes along with having animals,” said Lesa. Lesa’s advice for other teachers is, “Keep doing what you love! We are shaping our future and even if we reach just one child a year we are changing the world for the better!” [Click here to read the full feature!](#)

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**Donor Feature**

[Image]

This month’s Donor Feature is Kansas Wheat. Kansas Wheat is located in the Kansas Wheat Innovation Center in Manhattan, Kansas. Kansas Wheat is a premier level sponsor. Look for the Kansas Wheat Commission cookbook at the state fair in September! We appreciate your continued support! Visit Kansas Wheat at [www.kswheat.com](http://www.kswheat.com).

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**Lesson Plan Feature**

[Image]

The Soybean Lip Gloss lesson plan is a great way for students to learn how value-added products are made. This lesson plan is for grades 3rd-6th. It shows students how to make lip gloss from soybean oil that they have extracted. [Click here to view this lesson plan!](#)

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**July Wrap-Up**

July was a busy month for us here at KFAC. Cathy returned from the National Agriculture in the Classroom conference with tons of new ideas and knowledge to implement. We spent most of our time updating the new website to get it ready to launch. July is also a busy grant proposal month for us, so Cathy and Briana did some traveling to talk with potential donors. Our school year theme rollout will be launched in the next few weeks as well, so look for that soon.

Have a great start to your school year!

Briana and Cathy