



CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2026 EDITION

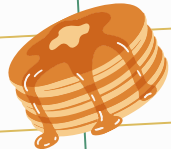


Bring Agriculture to life in YOUR Classroom

CLASSROOM CHALLENGES

Schoolyard Sugaring Happening NOW!!

Make something sweet with your class! A great project-based learning experience, your students can tap a tree, make some yummy maple syrup, and compete for prizes. Kits available at the CCE office, call 607.865.6531 to borrow one, or have an educator come to your class and help facilitate the project! Want to pair it with a trip to a local sugarhouse? We can do that too! Call Desiree to arrange a trip! Learn more and submit your entry at <https://newyork.agclassroom.org/programs/schoolyard-sugaring>.



Submissions due April 24, 2026



Ice Cream Challenge pre-registration now OPEN!

The Ice Cream Challenge allows your students to develop their own ice cream recipe, identify their target audience, create marketing materials for their flavor combination, and learn about the dairy processing industry in their community. This cross-curricular experience will reinforce core academic concepts in math, science, and ELA, while exposing students to career opportunities in our food system.

Learn more @ <https://newyork.agclassroom.org/programs/ice-cream-challenge>.

Want to take a dairy field trip & experience NY's leading ag sector 1st hand? Call Desiree @607.865.6531

CREATE A LIVING CLASSROOM

School gardens are hands-on living laboratories perfect for cross-curricular integration! Get students outside, moving, growing and learning:

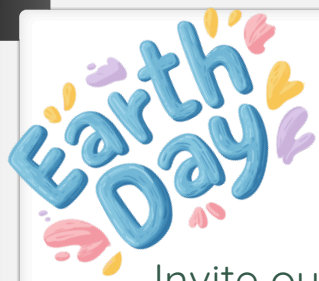
- Science: plant biology, ecology, weather, soil health.
- Math: measuring growth, calculating spacing, data collection.
- Language Arts: garden journals, writing projects, literature connections.
- Social Studies: food history, sustainability, agriculture practices.
- Nutrition & Health: understanding food sources and healthy eating habits.
- Arts: color theory, observational sketching, pattern recognition, and inspiration!

Harvest produce for the cafeteria and let students feast on the fruits of their labor!

Don't have a garden or know where to get started? We can help! Start with a window or classroom hydroponic garden or we can help design a garden.

Gardener support from our staff horticulturist and our Master Gardener Volunteers guarantees your success!





Let's Make Earth Day Seed Bombs!



Invite our horticulture educator into your classroom for an engaging lesson on the importance of pollinators and the vital role they play in agriculture and food production. Students will explore how bees, butterflies, and other pollinators support biodiversity and help grow the foods we enjoy every day.

Following the lesson, students will create their own seed bombs, small bundles of recycled paper mixed with native seeds that help grow new plants and support our local environment. Seed bombs are made by blending soaked paper into pulp, mixing in seeds, and shaping the mixture into balls that dry before being planted or gently tossed onto bare soil. With rain and sunshine, they'll sprout and provide habitat and food for pollinators.

Please allow approximately 45 minutes for the full lesson and activity. Contact us to schedule a visit and bring pollinator power to your classroom! Call 607.865.6531 & ask for Lila!



New message

← → ↻ 🔍 Exciting things in Farm to School ☆ ☰

To... Delaware County Teachers

Subject... Harvest of the Month Education Guide

Find lesson plans, books, recipes, virtual field trips, fun facts and so much more in this new guide full of NY produce! Spice up your classroom or take it up a notch and work with your cafeteria staff to bring what students are learning to the lunch line! Explore the guide @ <https://www.cn.nysed.gov/sites/cn/files/harvest-of-the-month-education-guides.ai-4-.pdf>

GET INVOLVED!



National Conference Scholarships Available

NY Ag in the Classroom wants to send YOU to the National Conference!!!

Scholarships include:

- Conference registration (\$525 value)
 - includes full access to workshops, keynote speakers, traveling workshops, Tuesday breakfast and lunch & Wednesday lunch and dinner.
- Double occupancy hotel accommodations at the conference hotel (\$500 value)
 - Checking in on Monday, June 22nd
 - Checking out Thursday, June 26th
- Charter bus transportation to and from the conference, with pick up locations across the state
- Up to 25 hours of CTLE professional development credit
- Total scholarship value is over \$1,800

Learn more and apply @

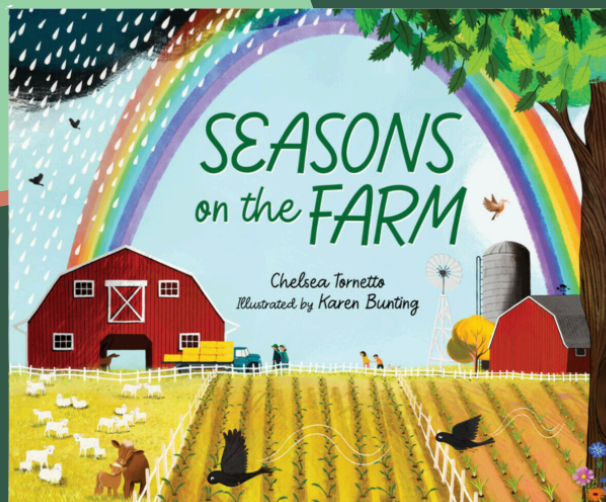
<https://newyork.agclassroom.org/grants/conference/>

Deadline: Sunday, March 22 @ 11:59pm



Show us your Photos!

We hope you have a fantastic Ag Literacy Week Experience and would love for you to share your photos! Tag us on Facebook @ Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County



Connect:



ccedelaware.org/agriculture/connect-with-agriculture/ag-in-the-classroom



dnk2@cornell.edu



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