

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Delaware County

Farm to  
School!

Bring  
Agriculture  
to life in  
**YOUR**  
Classroom

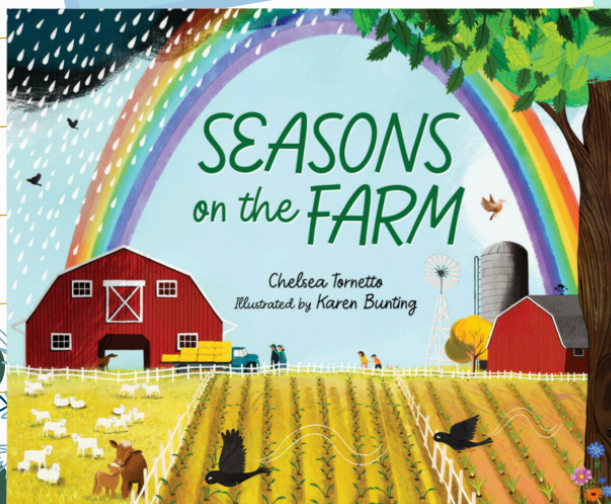
# CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

WINTER  
2025  
EDITION

## Looking Forward to **Ag Literacy Week 2026!**

Now is the time to get your classroom enrolled for Ag Literacy Week 2026! All you need to do is say YES! and your classroom will be presented with a copy of this year's book, "Seasons on the Farm" by Chelsea Tornetto. Ag Literacy Week

falls the week of March 16-20. Each participating classroom will have a guest reader from the Agricultural Community read the book to your students, answer questions and talk with kiddos about farming, and lead students in an activity! All materials and supplies for the activity will be provided. To get your classroom involved, simply call Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County @ 607.865.6531 and let us know you want to enroll your classroom or email Desiree @ [dnk2@cornell.edu](mailto:dnk2@cornell.edu)!





# BARNYARD BOUND

## Farm Options:

*Plan 2-4 weeks ahead of your desired farm visit!*



- **Dairy Farms-** See dairy cows, calves, and even some on farm dairy processing!  
Best time to visit: Fall & spring
- **Beef Farms-** See beef cows & calves and learn about different production systems.  
Best time to visit: Fall & spring
- **Orchards-** Learn about fruit production and even do some picking!  
Best time to visit: Fall & spring
- **Veggie Farms-** Learn about field and greenhouse production and taste what fresh means!  
Best time to visit: Year round
- **Aquaculture-** Discover fish and plant farming in water-based systems!  
Best time to visit: Fall & spring
- **Maple-** See and smell the delicious process of making maple magic  
Best time to visit: Late winter & spring

*Open Spaces,  
Open Minds!*

A fun and engaging way to learn! Agriculture touches every aspect of your curriculum!





# BRING YOUR CLASS TO THE FARM!!!!

## Why a Farm Field Trip?

Farm field trips give kids a chance to step into the world behind their everyday food. Instead of only hearing about plant life cycles, soil health, or animal care in a classroom, students get to walk through fields, peek into barns, and meet the people who grow and raise the things they rely on every day. These hands-on experiences help students make connections between science lessons and real life — watching seeds sprout, how weather affects crops, and the sustainable practices farms employ to care for the land. That real-world context sticks with them, making learning exciting, relevant, and memorable.

A visit to a working farm builds broader life lessons. Kids gain a deeper appreciation for local agriculture, discovering fresh, nutritious food begins long before it reaches a store shelf. They see teamwork, responsibility, and problem-solving in action, and many walk away with healthier curiosity about what they eat and where it comes from.



### SCHEDULE WITH CCE

Call Desiree @ 607.865.6531 or email:  
[dnk2@cornell.edu](mailto:dnk2@cornell.edu)  
to schedule and work out logistics to  
protect our farms and have the best  
experience!



# EXPLORE A VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

Short on time?

Still want to make the most of a field trip?

Try a virtual field trip!!!

A great way to explore farms when the weather isn't so inviting, or a longer trip isn't feasible, NY Ag in the Classroom has robust library of virtual trips you can share with your students! Check them out @



Grape Harvest  
Trip



Virtual Christmas  
Tree Farm Trip



Virtual field trips are also a great option to explore other types of farming that are found in different parts of the state, such as this grape farm!





# Schoolyard Sugaring Contest

Participating in the Schoolyard Sugaring contest brings learning to life for your students!

- **Hands-on science:** Students get to tap trees, collect sap, and watch biological and chemical processes unfold in real time.
- **Real-world math:** Measuring sap, tracking temperatures, and calculating syrup yields make math practical and engaging.
- **Local agriculture connection:** Kids learn where maple syrup truly comes from and why sugaring matters in New York.
- **Project-based learning:** The tap-to-syrup process gives students a meaningful, start-to-finish project they can own.



- **Teamwork and responsibility:** Collecting, monitoring, and boiling sap encourages collaboration and shared roles.
- **Creative expression:** The photography component invites students to capture the process through their own artistic lens.
- **High excitement, low barrier:** It's easy for classrooms to participate, and the sensory experience keeps students hooked from day one!

Get your classroom involved today! Register @ <https://newyork.agclassroom.org/programs/schoolyard-sugaring/>

Want help? Need to borrow a kit? Looking for a partner farm or a field trip? Call CCE Delaware @ 607.865.6531!



# GET INVOLVED!

Harvest NY works to link schools, farms, distributors, and suppliers — making it easier for even rural or small districts to participate in farm-to-school programs.

## School Gardens

Do you have a school garden you are looking for some help or inspiration with? Looking to develop a school garden? We would love to help!

- garden planning & planting
- troubleshooting
- summer support
- making kitchen connections



## NEW YORK FARM TO SCHOOL SUMMIT 2026



**ROOTED IN PLACE:**  
GROWING FARM TO SCHOOL  
FROM THE GROUND UP

**MONDAY FEBRUARY 23 -  
WEDNESDAY FEB. 25, 2026**

**SARATOGA SPRINGS, NY  
SARATOGA HILTON AND CITY CENTER  
AND SURROUNDING AREAS**

Field trips • Lightning talks •  
Panels • Hands-on learning •  
Trade show with NY food products •  
Networking opportunities

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Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Harvest New York



## Connect:



[ccedelaware.org/agriculture/connect-with-agriculture/ag-in-the-classroom](https://ccedelaware.org/agriculture/connect-with-agriculture/ag-in-the-classroom)



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