The mission of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation is to engage youth, educators, and the general public to promote an understanding of the vital importance of agriculture in the lives of all Nebraskans.

www.nefbfoundation.org | (402) 421-4747 | foundationforag@nefb.org

Resource Update

Over 163,000 AgMags distributed to EVERY elementary school in Nebraska.

Since Fall 2017, the foundation has been mailing out AgMags to every elementary school in Nebraska, twice a year (one in the spring and one in the fall). The AgMag is an exclusive resource for Nebraska fourth-grade classrooms and aligns with content area standards for language arts, social studies, and science.

AgMag Topics
- Issue 1: At School with Agriculture
- Issue 2: Protecting our Environment
- Issue 3: Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math in Agriculture
- Issue 4: Nebraska’s Natural Resources
- Issue 5: Nebraska’s Food Connection
- Issue 6: One Community

The AgMags enhance classroom learning as a large class discussion piece, an activity for small groups or individuals, or an at-home enrichment resource. Each AgMag has a corresponding Teacher’s Guide that contains classroom integration ideas, Nebraska content area standards connections, and a glossary.

This spring, the last issue (Issue 6) was mailed to classrooms. Teachers will now have the ability to request a collection of each issue of AgMag for future school years.

View all of the AgMags at www.nefbfoundation.org/agmag

Your Investment Yields a Bright Future for Nebraska and Its Number One Industry

Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom, Building on Success
Meet Gus!

Gus is a fun way for students and teachers to share how they are using Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom materials and resources to learn about Nebraska agriculture. Teachers download the picture of Gus and take photographs of students showing Gus the interesting things they are doing related to agriculture in their daily lives. Hellerich created educational resources, led workshops for aspiring teachers, and started the Ag Pen Pal program. Hellerich also led summer workshops for teachers that included tours all along the food chain – from farms to grocery stores – across the entire state of Nebraska. Since her retirement in 2011, she has remained an active Ag Pen Pal and AITC volunteer.

Ellen explains why she stays active with Nebraska AITC. “Today, not only is there a disconnect about where food, fiber, and fuel come from, there is also a loud and growing contingent of anti-agriculture voices. Farmers and ranchers need advocates to step up and share the truth about agriculture. All Nebraska students deserve access to accurate information to help them make decisions about their health, environment, and community.” The AITC program remains strong with high demand for college workshops and classroom visits and a network of more than 278 classrooms participating in the Ag Pen Pal program. Field trips, virtual tours, scholarships, and awards keep students and teachers engaged and learning in different ways.

Resource development is another priority for the foundation. The Foundation wrapped up a six-issue AgMag series this spring. The magazine was mailed, free-of-charge, to fourth grade classrooms in every school in Nebraska for the past three years. Next up is Mapping Our Food, an agriculture-based reading resource for first graders, which will hit mailboxes in the fall. Several new items were on display at the Nebraska Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Kearney. Featuring corn, cattle, a dairy, and a farmer’s market, new life-sized banners draw interest, while corresponding activity cards encourage meaningful conversation. Trivia wheels are another crowd-pleaser, and the foundation has created questions and answers on several topics of interest to consumers of all ages. Updated posters – the A-to-Z, By-Products of Corn, Beef, Soy, and Pork – make great learning aids. One Community, of Corn, Beef, Soy, and Pork – make great learning aids. One Community, of Corn, Beef, Soy, and Pork – make great learning aids. One Community, of Corn, Beef, Soy, and Pork – make great learning aids.

Today, not only is there a disconnect about where food, fiber, and fuel come from, there is also a loud and growing contingent of anti-agriculture voices. Farmers and ranchers need advocates to step up and share the truth about agriculture. All Nebraska students deserve access to accurate information to help them make decisions about their health, environment, and communities.

-Ellen Hellerich