



Florida Agriculture  
in the Classroom, Inc.  
AGRICULTURE KEEPS  
FLORIDA GREEN

PO Box 110015, Gainesville FL 32611 (352)846-1391 FAX (352)846-1390  
www.agtag.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JUNE 15, 2013**

**FLORIDA AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM  
FUNDS 19 VOLUNTEER GRANT PROJECTS**

**GAINESVILLE** – Florida students will learn about the state’s forestry industry, how to grow their own fruits and vegetables and the importance of bees to Florida agriculture as part of some of the 19 Volunteer Grant projects funded by Florida Agriculture in the Classroom for 2013.

The Gainesville-based, non-profit organization is spending \$20,000 on the 19 projects, which are estimated to reach an estimated 20,000 K-12 students around the state.

The projects and amounts approved for funding are as follows:

1. **“Food, Farming and Fun”** – Four Alachua County organizations, Alachua County After School, Alachua County Sustainability Office, Kids Count and Forage will hold several after school events where students in kindergarten through fifth grade will learn about growing food from a local farmer and learn about what they’re eating by participating in FAITC’s *Gardening for Grades* lessons.
2. **“Alachua County 4-H Forest Ecology Team”** – Students in an Alachua County 4-H club will learn about the Florida forest industry by participating FAITC lessons and learning from foresters who will speak to the group. (Alachua County Farm Bureau).
3. **“MKL 4-H Gardening and Greenhouse Project”** – Bay County Farm Bureau members will plant a garden area for 4-H members to learn the source of their food. (Bay County Farm Bureau).
4. **“DIG Digging into Gardening”** – Brevard County Extension will educate students in kindergarten through sixth grade about where food comes from by creating a portable raised bed garden and presenting FAITC’s *Gardening for Grades* curriculum. (Brevard County Extension).
5. **“Vertical Gardening”** – The Old Davie School Historical Museum will educate third, fourth and fifth graders about how to grow fruits and vegetables by installing vertical growing systems. (Old Davie School Historical Museum).
6. **“Fruits of Our Labor”** – Calhoun County Extension will educate students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade about growing different kinds of fruit by planting citrus, blueberries, blackberries and strawberries in a 4-H garden. (Calhoun County Extension).
7. **“iFarm”** – Students will learn about different commodities from stations developed by Clay County Farm Bureau that will involve hands on activities and signage with QR

- codes so students can go to websites and social media sites to learn more about each commodity. (Clay County Farm Bureau).
8. **“AgVenture and Beyond”** – DeSoto County Extension will develop commodity presentations to be used in the classroom, at summer camp and at an AgVenture program to educate youth about local agriculture production. (DeSoto County Extension).
  9. **“Sustainable Learning Garden for Highlands County Youth & Community Members”** – Highlands County 4-H will develop a learning garden and use lessons from FAITC’s *Gardening for Grades* to educate students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade about the Florida agriculture industry. (Highlands County 4-H)
  10. **“Jackson County 4-H Agventures”** – Jackson County 4-H will conduct its annual AgVenture program where first graders will learn about local agriculture production and teachers will receive FAITC’s curriculum, *Project Food, Land & People*. (Jackson County 4-H).
  11. **“His Harvest”** – Students in kindergarten through eighth grade at Blessed Trinity Church in Ocala will learn about where fruits and vegetables come from by planting several schoolyard gardens and learning from FAITC’s *Gardening for Grades*. (Blessed Trinity Church).
  12. **“2014 Marion County AgVenture”** – Marion County Farm Bureau will develop backdrops to go with AgVenture commodity stations where students learn about local agriculture production. (Marion County Farm Bureau).
  13. **“FARM Youth: Florida’s Agriculture Reaching Many Youth”** – Osceola County Extension will provide teachers in fourth through eighth grade with kits to help them better teach FAITC’s *Project Food, Land & People* lessons. (Osceola County Extension).
  14. **“Fall Family Festival and 4-H Open House”** – Palm Beach County 4-H will educate students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade about local agriculture production by developing activity stations to be featured at a fall festival. (Palm Beach County 4-H).
  15. **“Our Lady of Lourdes School Garden”** – Seventh graders at Our Lady of Lourdes School in Dunedin in Pinellas County will learn about where food comes from by planting a school garden and participating in FAITC’s *Gardening for Grades* curriculum. (Our Lady of Lourdes Church).
  16. **“Edible Peace Patch Project”** – The Edible Peace Patch Project non-profit organization in St. Petersburg in Pinellas County will educate students in kindergarten through fifth grade about where food comes from by planting fruit and vegetable gardens at local schools and engaging students, parents and teachers in the process. (Edible Peace Project).
  17. **“An Urban Farm to Table Project”** – The Heart Institute at Warner University in Lake Wales in Polk County will educate students in seventh and eighth grade about the business of agriculture and the nutritional benefits of locally produced food by installing a school garden and learning FAITC curricula and materials. (Warner University).
  18. **“4-H Agriculture Day”** – Fifth graders in Taylor County will learn about local agriculture production at an Agriculture Day event. (Taylor County 4-H).
  19. **“Keep Buzzing with Bees in Wakulla County Agriculture”** – Students in Wakulla, Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Gulf, Calhoun, Liberty and Taylor counties will learn about the importance of bees to the pollination of a number of Florida commodities from beekeeper volunteers who will visit schools and present FAITC lessons about the subject. (Wakulla County 4-H)

Florida Agriculture in the Classroom’s mission is to educate Florida K-12 teachers and students about the importance of Florida agriculture and the source of their food, fuel and fiber. It does so by providing teachers with lessons, materials, grant money and other

programs free or for a nominal fee thanks to the funding it receives from sales of the agriculture specialty license plate called the 'Ag Tag.'

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT LISA GASKALLA AT (352) 846-1391 OR [gaskalla@ufl.edu](mailto:gaskalla@ufl.edu)