

# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET

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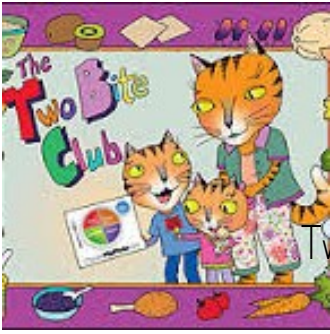
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SEEDGRAVES SCHOLARS



FARM FRIDAYS

# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET M IS FOR MY PLATE!



Developed by the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Two Bite Club was developed to introduce MyPlate to young children.



Author: Rebecca Rissman

Series to teach children about the food groups, and how they can make healthy food choices.

## AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS: My Plate—nutrition

### ACTIVITY:

- Informational Slides that detail My-Plate Nutrition with examples of foods from each food group
- Read books
- Color paper plate and attach labels to match the section on My-Plate
- Taste test a food from each of the food groups and complete graph, “Which party of the My-Plate did you like best?”
- Write about experience share with class



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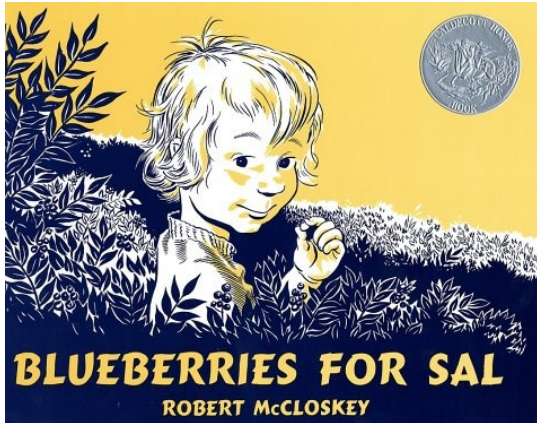


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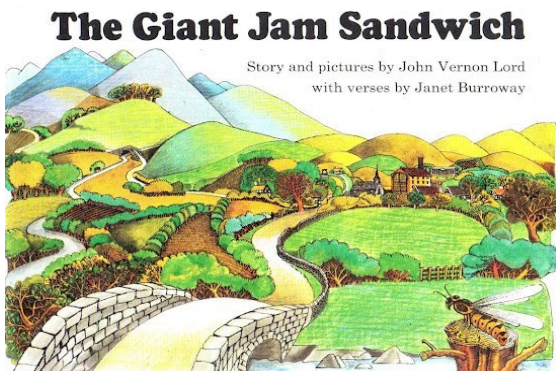
## J IS FOR JAMS AND JELLIES!



AUTHOR: ROBERT MCCLOSKEY

GENRE: FICTION

*Kuplink, kuplank, kuplunk!* Sal and her mother are picking blueberries to can for the winter. But when Sal wanders to the other side of Blueberry Hill, she discovers a mama bear preparing for her own long winter. Meanwhile Sal's mother is being followed by a small bear with a big appetite for berries! Will each mother go home with the right little one?



AUTHOR: JOHN VERNON LORD

GENRE: FICTION

It's a dark day for Itching Down. Four million wasps have just descended on the town, and the pests are relentless! What can be done? Bap the Baker has a crazy idea that just might work.

**AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** fruits, sugar, canning, My-Plate nutrition

### ACTIVITY:

- Informational Slides that detail where many fruits are grown, and how they are used for making jams, and jellies.
- Watch video on YouTube "How It's Made" series about making jelly.
- Music and movement time to song "Peanut, Peanut Butter, and Jelly".
- Review ingredients used to make strawberry jam.
- Class participates in measuring out ingredients and mashing the strawberries as they cook.
- Read books
- Create a strawberry tag with name and date for jars.

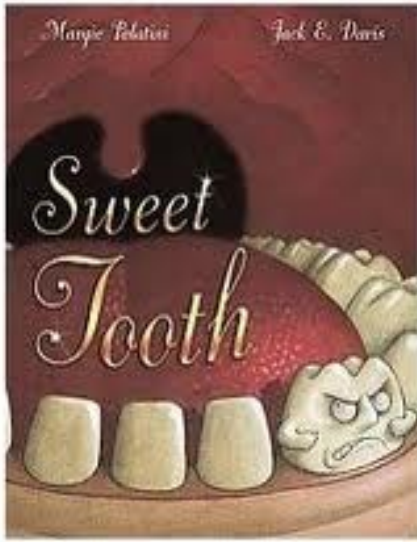
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- Write about experience and share with class.
- Take jar of strawberry jam home to share



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# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET S IS FOR SUGAR!



AUTHOR: MARGIE PALANTINI

GENRE: FICTION

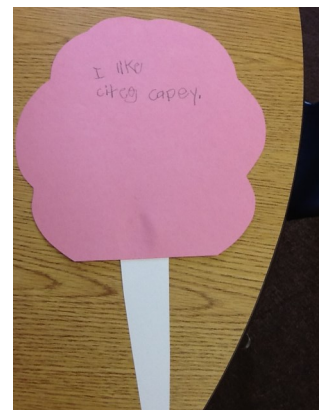
Lots of kids have a sweet tooth. But not like Stewart's. His very loud sweet tooth wants what it wants, when it wants it...and lets everyone know about it.

Stewart's sweet tooth screams for cake at weddings, for candy during class, and torments him at the movies. Stewart has had enough, and he's bringing out the big guns -- a carrot. Can he stand up to the most annoying sweet tooth in history?

**AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** sugar cane, sugar beets, My Plate – nutrition

## ACTIVITY:

- Informational Slides that detail Cycle of Farm to table by outlining the origin of sugar, how it is grown, harvested, and processed, its nutritional value and how it can be eaten
- Read book
- Look at various types of sugars: sugar cubes, sugar cane, confectioner, liquid, white and brown sugars
- prepare icing using confectioner's sugar, cotton candy using white sugar, and snow cones using liquid sugar
- Taste test foods and complete graph, "Which type of sugar did you like the best?"
- Write about experience and share with class



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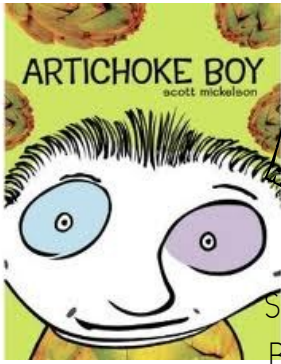
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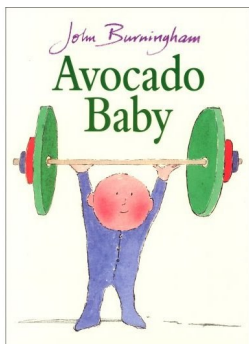
## A IS FOR

## ARTICHOKES AND AVOCADOES!



AUTHOR: SCOTT MICKELSON/ GENRE: FICTION/RHYMING

Some kids love peas and potatoes. Some kids love beans and tomatoes. There is Artichoke Boy who loves artichokes most of all. He's not the only one. His mother, father, and sister are crazy for artichokes, too! It's one Big artichoke-loving family. Scott Mickelson's zany picture book in rhyme, with bright and bold illustrations, will keep young ones coming back again and again for lots of giggles – and plenty of artichokes.



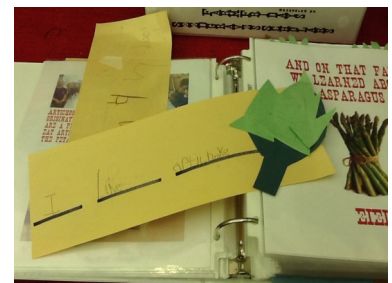
AUTHOR: JOHN BURNINGHAM/ GENRE: FICTION

The Hargraves, a kind but scrawny family, want their new baby to grow up big and strong. But the tiny tyke will hardly eat a thing. One day, Mrs. Hargraves finds an avocado in the fruit bowl, and the infant gobbles it up. But then, the strangest things begin to happen as the baby develops superhuman strength. Just the book for picky eaters.

**AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** stone fruits, flower vegetables, My Plate–nutrition

### ACTIVITY:

- Informational slides that detail cycle of farm to table by outlining the origin of artichokes and avocado, how they are grown, harvested, and processed, their nutritional value and how they can be eaten
- Look at an artichoke and avocado
- Read books
- Read recipes and prepare guacamole and artichoke dip
- Taste test dips and complete graph, “Which dip did you like best?”
- Write about experience and share with class



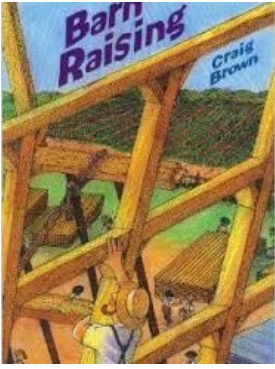
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# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET B IS FOR BARN!



AUTHOR: CRAIG BROWN

GENRE: REALISTIC FICTION

The heart of every working farm is its barn. It provides shelter for animals, storage for their feed, and a place to keep tools and machinery. When the barn on Jacob's farm burns down, Jacob's father knows he has to replace it -- and quickly.

In the Amish community a barn is built in a day. Early in the morning friends and neighbors gather to make and raise the frames of the barn, to roof it, and to add the siding. By evening a new building rises from the landscape. Once again the animals have shelter, their feed is stored, and the farm equipment is in place.

**AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** shelter, crops, livestock, jobs on the farm, farm pests, farm machines

## ACTIVITY:

- Informational Slides that detail the origin of the barn and how it is utilized on the farm
- Read book
- Look at various pictures of barns
- Build barns using oatmeal canisters and construction paper or build barns using craft sticks
- Eat haystack snacks using chow mein noodles, peanut butter, and butterscotch chips



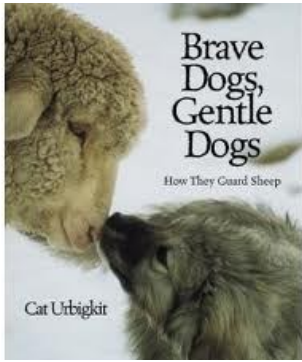
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# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET D IS FOR DOGS!



AUTHOR: CAT URBIGKIT

GENRE: NON-FICTION

Like other livestock in the Rocky Mountains, sheep need protection from predators, such as coyotes and wolves. Guardian dogs help ranchers protect their flocks. But they are not the typical herding dogs, and they are not native to the region. The breeds were imported from Europe, where they have been guarding livestock for thousands of years. As puppies, they are placed in fleece and learn to identify with the smell of sheep. It isn't long before they meet their first sheep and mingle with the flock. With little training, the dogs instinctively know that their job is to keep a lookout for danger and now and then do some babysitting. Cat Urbigkit's engaging photo-essay shows how guardian dogs form a bond with the sheep that lasts throughout the dogs' life.

**AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:** Jobs on the farm, livestock, animal care

## ACTIVITY:

- Informational Slides that detail the role of dogs on the farm, types of farm dogs, how they are cared for, and language used between the farmer and the farm dog.
- Read book
- Look at pictures of various types of dogs used on farms
- Have local community member bring in a farm dog for class to see and have visitor talk about the job responsibilities of the farm dog
- Divide class into two groups. Have children play relay game using a balloon to represent a livestock animal and a fly swatter to represent the dog. Children move the balloon with the fly swatter to a designated area.
- Write about experience and share with class

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# THE AGRICULTURAL ALPHABET

## X IS FOR OX!

AUTHOR: MATTHEW LUCKHURST

GENRE: FICTION



In this humorous twist on a classic tale, Paul Bunyan and his best friend, Babe the Blue Ox, leave life on the farm to work for a logger who pays them with their favorite thing: pancakes!



AUTHOR: DONALD HALL

GENRE: REALISTIC FICTION

A lyrical journey through the seasons and passing years of one New Englander's family evokes the feeling of historical America

### AGRICULTURAL CONNECTIONS:

Jobs on the farm, livestock, animal care, Yearly cycle of Farm

### ACTIVITY:

- Informational slides that detail the role of oxen on the farm, how they are cared for, and language used between the farmer and the oxen.
- Read books
- Bring yoke and have children try it on in pairs
- Have pairs maneuver around and obstacle course pulling a wheel barrow and using commands for oxen
- Create a blue ox craft
- Watch YouTube videos of Paul Bunyan cartoons
- Write about experience and share with class

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