



MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

Growing Literacy with Agriculture Book Bundles





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Session Overview

- Introductions
- Literacy and Book Bundles
- Book review and hands-on activities
- Wrap-up





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Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom

- Educational Program through the MN Department of Agriculture
- Public/Private Partnership
 - Public Dollars at MN Dept. of Ag =staff
 - Private Dollars through MAITC Foundation = programs and resources

Sue Knott, Education Specialist

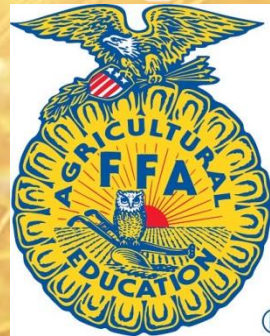
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Lakefield, MN





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Literacy is HUGE!

“Reading is the fundamental skill upon which all formal education depends. Research now shows that a child who doesn’t learn the reading basics early is unlikely to learn them at all. Any child who doesn’t learn to read early and well will not easily master other skills and knowledge, and is unlikely to ever flourish in school or in life.”

Louisa Moats, “Teaching IS Rocket Science: What Expert Teacher of Reading Should Know and Be Able to Do” American Federation of Teachers, June 1999.



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Literacy is HUGE!

So please, oh PLEASE, we beg, we pray, Go throw your TV set away, And in its place you can install, A lovely bookshelf on the wall.”

*Roald Dahl, Charlie
and the Chocolate Factory*





MN Book Bundles

Previous Bundle – 22 Books, Over \$300

New-and-Improved Bundles!

- Two bundles – K-2 bundle and 3-5 Bundle
- 10 books each
- \$100 each
- Educator Guide

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Development Process

Criteria

- Agriculturally accurate
- Longevity – 5 years
- Diversity of agricultural topics
- Mix of fiction and non-fiction

Which books?

- Asked NAITC network, teachers, volunteers, social media, etc. for suggestions
- Read through them and narrowed our selection



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Book Bundle Mini-Lessons

Review Book and Complete Activity!



Provide highlights of the book



Summarize hands-on activity



Identify the Ag connections



Describe the curricular connections (Examples: science, social studies, language arts, math, health, etc.)

MAITC Educational Resources

<http://mn.agclassroom.org/>



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