All Aboard!
Your Way to Ag Literacy
Ag Literacy for All

Partnership for Growth

Claiborne Parish Schools
Claiborne Parish Farm Bureau
Claiborne Parish Farm Bureau Partners with Homer High School

Claiborne Parish Farm Bureau Receives Mini-Grant

Year 1
2016 – 2017
Louisiana AITC Parish Committee Mini-Grant Program
Grant funds were used to purchase materials for the Ag Literacy Learning Station in the Media Center.
Hardcover Ag Literacy books become part of the permanent library collection at Homer High School.
Timeline for Class “AG-tivities”

Week 1
- Students record notes on the Pillars of Ag Literacy and discuss project.

Week 2
- Students work in teams to research information on Ag Literacy books.

Week 3
- Teams create make-and-take Ag-tivities and PowerPoint slideshows.

Week 4
- Teams practice reading fluency and rehearse oral presentations.

Week 5
- Student teams gather project materials and organize Ag Literacy kits.
Program components are presented and discussed in class.

Students record notes, form teams, and preview Ag Literacy books in class.
Students research author information, vocabulary terms, agriculture concepts and practices, and make-and-take activities.

English IV students search for project ideas in the National Agricultural Literacy Curriculum Matrix at www.agclassroom.org.
Ag Literacy for All Students

Learning and Growing Vocabulary Concepts

Germination
Cotyledon
Seed Coat

Pollination
Stamen
Pistil

Embryo
Wattle
Comb

Commodities
Producers
Growers

Production
Packaging
Processes

Polyester
Synthetic
Fibers

Cording
Fleece
Asparagus
Radish
Students research careers, locate photos, and print captions.

Student teams create hallway bulletin board display.

Careers in Agriculture
Student teams practice in class in front of their peers.

Students are scored on reading fluency, organization, and knowledge of material.
Student teams collect materials for Ag Literacy kits.
Grant Program Timeline

Volunteer Reader Activities

Aug—Sept
- Literacy Learning Station constructed
- Teams Research and Rehearse

Oct—Nov
- Volunteer Reader Teams visit Homer Elementary School classrooms

Dec—Jan
- Volunteer Reader Teams visit Homer Elementary School classrooms

Feb—March
- Volunteer Reader Teams visit Homer Elementary School classrooms

April— May
- Program evaluations collected/analyzed
- Awards programs and student recognition
Student teams read Ag Literacy books, supervise make-and-take Ag-tivities, and hand out healthy snacks at the elementary school.
Program Evaluations
Comments from Elementary Teachers

Leontyne Jones (3rd grade)
Leanne Ragas: “Thank you so much...Please come back!!” (Pre-K)

Tawana Staten: “Thanks so much for giving my students this great experience!”

Amanda Crane: “These students did a great job.” (4th grade)

Stacy Rogers: “This is awesome because our next unit is on plants!” (Kindergarten)

Ashley Lonadier (4th grade)
Erica Nelson (Pre-K)

Julianna Anderson (2nd grade)

Lisa Long: “The students did a great job. My class enjoyed the activity.” (1st grade)

Beth Hollis (3rd grade)

Student teams were scored according to the Common Core presentation rubric.
The Lisa Libraries of New York donated Ag Literacy books as incentive rewards for outstanding elementary readers.

JerArtisan Abney
(student in Ms. Tawana Staten’s class)

M’Kayla Willis
(student in Mrs. Lisa Long’s class)
Thank You to Farm Bureau and AITC for a Great Year!

2016 2017
Year 2
2017—2018

Homer High School partners with Homer Elementary School and Claiborne Parish Farm Bureau.

Funding provided by Louisiana AITC Parish Committee Mini-Grant Program and the White-Reinhardt Mini-Grant Program.
Grant funds were used to purchase:
(1) New Ag Literacy books
(2) A variable-speed, shuttered exhaust fan
(3) An overhead drip irrigation system
Homer High school students enrolled in Agriculture Science classes teamed up with seniors enrolled in English IV classes.

The Red Book Barn was delivered to the Homer Elementary library during the back-to-school faculty meeting in August.
Timeline for Grant Program “AG-tivities”
Volunteer Reader Teams
Agriculture Science Classes

Aug--Sep
-Students renovate greenhouse and install raised beds.

Oct--Nov
-Poultry teams compete in fall fairs and state competitions.

Dec--Jan
-Students research careers in Agricultural fields and present findings with visual aids.

Feb--Mar
-Ag science students prepare raised beds and plant seeds.

April--May
-Volunteer reader teams utilize live plants and animals for classroom visits.
Ag science students renovated the greenhouse and installed raised beds.
“Puffy,” a Feather-legged Barred Cochín, will take a nap anywhere.

“Blondie,” a Feather-legged Buff Brahma, is a crowd favorite.

Prize-winning “Puffy Chickens” travel the state.
Students research information on careers related to agriculture, including education plans and potential salaries. Then they present their findings with visual aids.
Ag Science students plant seeds and grow vegetables in raised beds.
Growing Crops

- Turnip Greens
- Collard Greens
- Mustard Greens
- Tomatoes
- Cucumbers
- Bell Peppers
- Carrots
- Green Beans
- Squash
- Basil
Volunteer Reader teams visited the elementary classrooms to read, present multi-media Power Point slide shows, and conduct hands-on Ag-tivities.
FFA poultry team members and our newest Ag Ambassadors visit the elementary school.
Outstanding reader awards were made possible by a donation from The Lisa Libraries of New York.
Chicken Challenge

Create a Puppet

1) Use crayons to color the paper bag.
2) Glue on the eyes and the beak.
3) Add cotton balls and feathers.
Growing Pains

• Budget for materials and supplies; consumables
• Snacks and allergies; cleaning produce and animals
• Researching facts; explanations, vocabulary and practice
• Teams and groups; responsible students and accountability
• Expectations for students and teachers; preparation and planning
• Growing seasons; holidays; seasons of the year; instructional units
• School calendar and scheduling; timing; class periods and grade levels
Resources

https://www.aitcla.org
https://www.incredibleegg.org
http://www.uspoultry.org
https://www.aeb.org
https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/
http://www.lisalibraries.org/
https://www.agclassroom.org/
http://www.amazon.com
https://www.thedesignconfidential.com
http://www.agfoundation.org
All Aboard!

Your Way to Ag Literacy

CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS:

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