

Why Is There A Need for Ag Education?

Unfortunately, most children do not understand where their food comes from. When asked, they will say it's the grocery store or the drive-through window at the local fast food establishment.

Nevertheless, agriculture remains a leading industry in Pennsylvania. Agriculture, including all involved in the food and fiber chain, employs one out of every five Pennsylvanians. The continued health of this industry is paramount to the social, economic, and environmental fiber of our existence.



The PA Friends of Ag Foundation, associated with the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, administers this program. The

Friends of Ag Foundation insures, maintains, staffs and schedules these lab units. The Foundation is responsible for providing elementary school teachers with training related to integrating the lab lessons into their programs.



For more information or to schedule the ag lab, contact:

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*Agriculture on Wheels . . .
Taking Ag to the Classroom!*

**Pennsylvania Friends of Ag Foundation/
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau
Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab**
1213 E. Dutch Corner Road
McConnellsburg, PA 17233



Agriculture on Wheels . . .

Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab



*Find Out How To Get
The Ag Lab
For Your School District!*

Taking Ag to the Classroom!

Ag education is included in PA Department of Education Environment and Ecology academic standards for schools in Pennsylvania. It would be time consuming and costly for each teacher to be able to offer what the new Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab can offer students.



Each lab has the potential of educating up to 900 students per week on the many aspects of how agriculture affects our lives everyday, through hands-on learning.

Children perform real science experiments, each teaching a lesson in agriculture. Such lessons include making glue from milk, identifying grains and their uses and soil conservation.

How the Ag Lab Works

The Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab travels with a certified teacher to a different elementary school in Pennsylvania each week.

Students enter the lab to perform science experiments. With each lab comes a supply of educational resources (Ag videos, books, etc.) that the regular classroom teachers can use to supplement the science classes. Interior wall displays provide visual graphics for enhanced learning.



Each lab and each science experiment is designed to emphasize a different aspect of agriculture, including

Pennsylvania's primary commodities, agriculture and the environment, biotechnology, food and fiber, food safety and so on. Children work cooperatively using the scientific method to develop a problem, form a hypothesis, investigate, collect data and draw conclusions.

Specifics:

Lab Provides:

- Five - Six, 50-minute classes per day
- 12 stations in lab/2-3students per station (depending on grade level)
- Materials and handouts to use before and after lab experiments to follow up on the lesson.
- A different science experiment each day of the week so that students can return to the lab for further studies/discoveries.

Curriculum:

- Targeted at elementary and middle schools, grades 3 thru 7
- Menu of curriculum choices which can be customized by schools and teachers
- Curriculum meets PDE Academic Standards in Environmental and Ecology and Science and Technology.
- PA Dept. of Ag supports curriculum.



Requirements of School:

- Level, paved parking
- Water hook-up (within 75 ft.)
- 220 current with NEMA 14-50R receptacle (within 75 ft.)
- The regular classroom teacher is responsible for students
- Scheduled for one full week
- A school-appointed volunteer assists with classes.
- Schedule In-Service training prior to arrival of lab.

Cost to school:

- Fee determined by location. Contact us to determine cost for your school.
- Half of total due with signed contract when scheduled, balance due 2 weeks after conclusion of lab visit.