



Background:

The Merced County Farm Bureau is a non-profit grassroots organization that advocates for farmers, ranchers and dairy families in Merced County. For many students, both in rural and urban areas, the understanding of where food and fiber comes from and the impact agriculture has on their daily lives is many times misunderstood. To aid in informing local students about agriculture the Merced County Farm Bureau hosts an annual FARM2U Day for the local community to participate in. In addition, Merced County Farm Bureau staff participates in a number of on-campus Agriculture Days. Although this is a valiant effort by our organization, volunteers, and educators we know that there are thousands of students that are missing out on the opportunity to learn about the importance of agriculture. For this reason, we have created this rewards program. The program is available to TK-6th grade classes including resource and special needs. The winner of this rewards program will receive \$500 to be used toward classroom supplies, these supplies need not be related any particular agriculture lesson.

Objective:

A teacher (or group of teachers or administrator) must incorporate at least one agriculturally based lesson into their curriculum between now and May 2, 2024 and submit a completed application for review.

Process:

- Educators must incorporate an agriculturally based lesson/activity
- Fill out attached application
- Photograph the activity/lesson
 - at least five (5) photos of students' involvement must be submitted (can be taken teaching via Zoom).
- Teachers are allowed to submit multiple applications (one per topic/activity)
- Submit the application by **May 3rd, 2024** for review
- Applications are accepted by
 - Mail: P.O. Box 1232 Merced, CA 95301 (*Must be postmarked by May 3, 2024*)
 - Delivery: 646 S. Highway 59 Merced, CA 95341
 - Email: dflake@mercedfarmbureau.org
- Additional applications can be found at <https://www.mercedfarmbureau.org/>

All photos and application information become property of Merced County Farm Bureau. Photos and information may be used in MFCB Publications. The person(s) submitting the application assumes responsibility for having permission to publish photos and information.

Guidelines:

- Application will be judged on the following:
 - Overall student impact
 - Creativity
 - Relation to Merced County Agriculture
- Must be a TK-6th grade class within Merced County
 - TK-6th grade Special Education and resource classes are encouraged to apply
- **Classes from the same school that collaborate on the same lesson plan must apply jointly**
- Home School Programs – must have a minimum of 8-10 students, within the required grade levels, currently enrolled in a home school program involved in the activity.
 - Note – this can be a combination of programs/households to ensure minimum numbers.
- School Garden activities are applicable, please list the activities your class has done in the garden and any related in-class lessons
- Using our Virtual FARM2U lessons is acceptable, but they are recommended for grade levels **TK-4th**
- **Applications are due May 3rd, 2024**

Teacher's Name: _____

School/Home School Program: _____

School District: _____

Grade: _____

Date of Lesson Plan/Activity: _____

Brief explanation of lesson/activity:

Please attach any additional documents

- You can attach the lesson PowerPoint, students' examples, additional photos, etc.

Length of time:

Number of students involved:

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