

Making a Difference

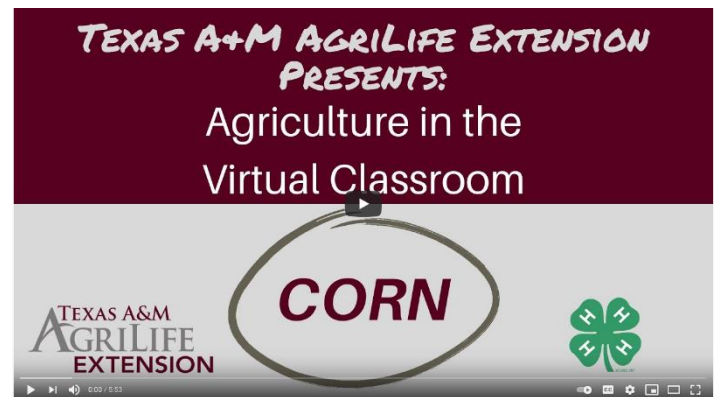
Jackson County Ag Literacy Day

2020 In-Depth Program Results

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Relevance:

The impact agriculture has on our life is important for the future of every individual. Providing this exposure to youth is important as they become more aware of the world we live in. Today, nearly ninety percent of the population is two or three generations removed from direct contact with food and fiber production. Many people no longer know where or how their food originates and really don't care, assuming it will always be available when needed. As a result, youth know little about agricultural production, processing, marketing, distribution, regulation or research. Ag Day is presented each year at the Brackenridge Recreation Complex for the purpose of allowing Jackson County fourth graders to experience agriculture first hand. It features group presentations and rotational learning modules in a field trip setting presented by a dedicated group of very knowledgeable volunteers.



Response:

Activities are designed to give children the opportunity to learn about food and fiber production with an emphasis on the agricultural bounty of Jackson County. Hands on activities, displays and small group demonstrations are provided by local farmers, producers, businesses, agriculture specialists, 4-H and FFA students. The program was focused toward approximately 300, 4th grade youth in all Jackson County public, private, special needs schools and home school programs. This year, due to COVID, District 11 County Extension Agents teamed up to develop 11 different virtual programs designed for kids in 4th and 5th grades.



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Results:

AgriLife Extension created videos and put together other activities to use in teaching the youth about where their food comes from. The Agents on this District 11 School Programming team have created some great educational tools. We are excited to get to share with you, information about eleven different commodities in the Agriculture world. We have tried to use local resources on these commodities where we could.

We will send you information on four different commodities each week. We would like to highlight two commodities on Tuesday and two commodities on Thursday, however you can use the material however it fits into your schedules for the week. For the next three weeks we will send you an email with a YouTube link that you can post on your Facebook page. This short video will include information on the commodity, some nutrition, a Dinner Tonight recipe highlighting that commodity, physical activity and other related details. There will also be a printable activity sheet and by-products pdf for each commodity that you can print and share with your students as well.

The commodities we are covering will be:
Week 1: Dairy, Corn, Pork and Rice
Week 2: Poultry, Wheat, Goat and Tomato
Week 3: Sheep, Grapefruit and Beef



Dairy Cattle in Texas

- Texas has around 500,000 dairy cows.
- Texas is ranked 5th in the nation for milk production.
- About 70 percent of dairy operations in the state are in the Panhandle.
- In 2019 Texas dairy cows produced 12.6 billion pounds of milk!



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