

Send in your Stories and Photos

Kansas Corn STEM loves to see how you are using the lessons and labs in the classroom. Tag us on social media @kansascomSTEM or send us an email at education@ksgrains.com. Our goal is to share your photos and stories on our website.



3rd Graders at Marais Des Cygnes Valley show their investigation results.



Joyce Dejenbusch at Skyline Schools has her student learning to pipette.

Seed to STEM Summer Workshop Dates Announced!

Get excited! Kansas Corn is now accepting applications for the 2019 summer workshops. Teachers who are selected will practice 12 labs that they can use in the classroom to help students learn the role agriculture plays in science. The workshop includes a farm and field visit, an industry dinner and a field trip to an ethanol plant. In addition, every teacher will receive \$500 worth of free lab resources, plus all onsite expenses paid. Graduate credit will also be available at a cost to the participant. Middle School and High School track is offered at each location:

- May 30-31 in Olathe at Oregon Trail Middle School
- June 4-5 in Maize at Maize South High School

SEED TO STEM 2.0—New this year is a Seed to STEM 2.0 track. Past participants are eligible to apply and only 20 teachers will be selected per track. Participants will practice up to 8 new labs, attend an industry dinner and will have time for collaboration. To apply for the workshops, visit <https://kscom.com/6-12-training/>

Seed to STEM 2.0 Dates

- High School Track-May 30-31st in Olathe located at Oregon Trail Middle School
- Middle School Track-June 4-5th in Maize located at Maize South High School

Meet the Seed to STEM Team

Nine science teachers have been selected as the 2018-2019 Seed to STEM lead teacher team. These teachers conduct workshops at education conferences during the school year, write Seed to STEM curriculum and will lead the summer workshops. Kansas Corn is lucky to have them on our education team.

“Being a part of Seed to STEM offers me the opportunity to interact with, teach, and learn from other educators in the state.” -Bill Welch, Derby High School

“I am excited to return as a Seed to STEM lead teacher. I enjoy being able to work with a great team of very talented teachers who provide a wonderful and exciting experience implementing agriculture into the classroom.” - Brent Conner, Salina South Middle School



Lead Teachers from left to right: Brian Nelson, Hadley Middle School; Shelly Robinson, Santa Fe Trail High School; James Burk, Trego Community High School; Brent Conner, Salina South Middle School; Blake Smith, Maize South High School; Lacie Fair, Newton High School; Bill Welch, Derby High School; Chris Remmich, Garden City High School; Front Row: Jessica Sadler, Oregon Trail Middle School; Sharon Thielen, Director of Education; Erin Rios, Education Programs Manager



Kansas Corn Breakout

Written by Joshua Runyan, Inquiry Ambassador

Tired of the same boring professional development? What if you could have a professional development that is hands on, engaging, and you receive access to FREE SUPPLIES and LESSON PLANS? If this sounds like the kind of professional development that you would like to have at your school, head to <https://kscom.com/breakout> and click on the K-6 Training.

The professional development utilizes breakoutedu.com boxes to deliver a hands-on professional development that highlights some of the free lessons and content that the [kscom.com website](https://kscom.com) provides for teachers. Be challenged. Show grit. Problem Solve.

Corn Plastic- Seed to STEM 2.0 Lab

Written by Brian Nelson, Seed to STEM Lead Teacher

Plastic has shaped the world in ways that we could never have imagined. The importance of plastic in the modern world cannot be understated. Plastic is inexpensive, light weight, durable, and can be molded into virtually any shape. Plastic is present in every aspect of our lives and largely responsible for the advancements in society that we take for granted each and every day.

Still, plastic has its draw backs. Most plastic is manufactured from nonrenewable petroleum. It is so durable that it will take generations before biodegrades. Because it is so inexpensive and convenient, consumable single use plastic products are common. Plastic trash is becoming a global issue and micro plastics are even now showing up in the food chain.

We need an alternative. We need a product that has all benefits of petroleum-based plastic but is made from a renewable biodegradable resource. Graduates of the Seed to STEM program can apply to return for the new summer program, Seed to STEM 2.0. Those selected will have an opportunity to learn about one of these alternatives. Corn Plastic! This summer, workshop participants will make plastic from corn and learn how this can be done with their students. We are excited to be offering this new lesson for teachers and look forward to seeing our returning graduates this summer.

Santa Fe Trail Ethanol Plant Visit Funded by Kansas Corn

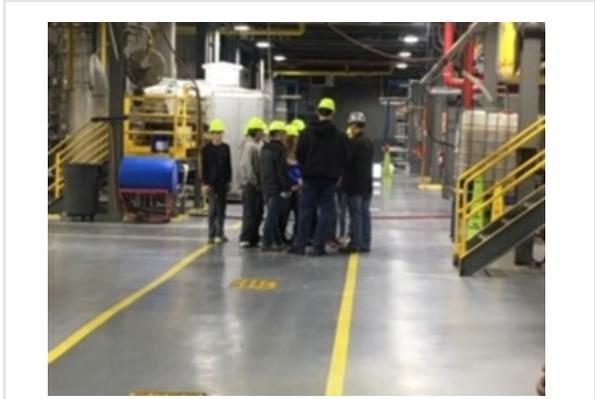
Written by Shelly Robinson, Seed to STEM Lead Teacher

On Monday, November the 19th, the Santa Fe Trail high school biology and energy science classes had the good fortune of touring the East Kansas Agri-Energy ethanol plant in Garnett. This trip was made possible by a generous donation from Kansas Corn and Renew Kansas.

Prior to the trip, biology students spent a good portion of the year learning about the corn industry and its impact on the economy, visiting with local farmers, getting up close and personal with a combine as corn was harvested and learning about the process of ethanol production through hands-on activities provided by the Kansas Corn Seed to STEM program. The energy science students who visited the plant are enrolled in an Energy Industry Fundamentals class that is taught as a concurrent course through Flint Hills Technical College and will be pursuing careers in the energy industry after graduation, so this opportunity for them to visit a working facility within the energy industry was invaluable.

I would like to thank Kansas Corn and Renew Kansas for this opportunity to provide real world application of knowledge and for their investment in future generations of Kansans. It is through organizations such as yours that teachers can make learning more meaningful and provide students with the motivation to enter career paths such as agriculture and energy production.

Want to take your students on an ethanol plant tour? Request funding at <https://kscorn.com/request-materials/>



SFT students toured East Kansas Agri Energy ethanol plant at Garnett.

Dates and Reminders:

--Distillation kits are low on inventory. Seed to STEM graduates need to request ASAP.

--Seed to STEM workshop applications open December 13th

--Supplies requested between December 14th-January 5th will not be mailed until January 14th.

--Seed to STEM mini workshop at KAAE Winter Conference – January 25th

--Seed to STEM mini workshop at CTE Conference- February 13-14

New to learning about Kansas Corn STEM? Check out all of our offerings at www.kscorn.com/education and request materials at <https://kscorn.com/request-materials/>

Email us at education@kscorn.com

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