

December 2019



### **NOTICE: Winter Break Mailing Dates and Deadlines**

Kansas Corn STEM will be taking a break from mailing supplies during winter break. Any requests placed after December 13th will be shipped out January 6th. If you need supplies prior to January 8th please make your request before December 13th.

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### **Are Kansas Corn STEM Supplies the Property of the Teacher or the School?**

Did you know that all supplies received from Kansas Corn are property of the teacher, not the school. If you have received training from us or have been using our lessons and received free supplies, those supplies need to follow you as you change schools. Some of our workshops, like Seed to STEM or our support for CASE, include large gifts of supplies that a teacher will be only eligible for once. Don't leave your supplies behind. If your school needs proof that the supplies belong to you, simply email [education@ksgrains.com](mailto:education@ksgrains.com).

**Note:** The only exception is if a school invited Kansas Corn STEM into the school for a Breakout Box PD workshop. In this case the boxes belong to the school and are shared among the teachers.

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### **Fall Seed to STEM Workshop**

Kansas Corn, in partnership with the American Royal, hosted 18 middle school science teachers at the fall Seed to STEM workshop at K-State Olathe in November. The workshop focused on labs on corn, biotechnology and ethanol. The participants toured the American Royal facility, visited with Guetterman Farms and toured the East Kansas Agri Energy ethanol plant at Garnett. Each participant, most of which were from the Kansas City area, walked away with over \$500 worth of materials and 10 new labs to teach in their classroom. To see more photos [visit our Flickr album](#).

## From Kansas Teachers . . .

We love hearing from teachers who have used our Kansas Corn STEM lessons and materials in their classrooms. If you have a story to share with us, email us at [education@ksgrains.com](mailto:education@ksgrains.com)



### Overland Park Elementary Uses Kindergarten Unit

*Written by Becca Rhudy, Kindergarten Teacher at Overland Park Elementary*

I used the Kansas Corn kindergarten lessons in my classroom the week before Thanksgiving Break. They were very easy to follow and took almost no preparation on my part to incorporate into the classroom. I did not have to change or alter any of the lessons but followed them as given and they took the perfect amount of time.

My students got a lot out of the lessons and could not wait for the next day to learn more. They did not previously know the parts of the corn plant or that corn could be grown from the kernels. I loved the agriculture aspect/vocabulary of the lessons as most students in a suburban setting have no concept of actual farms and that people make their living by farming.

Thank you so much for allowing teachers and students this opportunity to learn about farming, agriculture, corn, and plants, all while helping us reach important learning targets for our students!



### Using Water Beads to Teach Students about Germination

*Written by Carmelita Goossen, Ag Education Teacher, Southwestern Heights*

Southwestern Heights FFA found a neat way to teach students about what is needed for a corn seed to germinate. We requested corn germination necklace supplies from Kansas Corn STEM and our FFA students did an activity during the 3rd grade agricultural field trip.

We separated the water beads by color. Clear beads for Air, blue beads for water, and yellow beads for sun.

We pre-counted the water beads of each color for the exact number of people in each group and then added the dry water beads with a teaspoon of water to a condiment cup with a snap on lid and they grew to just about the right size. We labeled the lid of the condiment cup of the clear beads air... blue beads water... yellow beads sun.

When it was time for the activity the kids added one bead of each color and FFA members lead the discussion about what plants need to germinate (Air, Water, Sun). This flowed perfectly with the instructions you provided.

Thanks for pre-packaging this great activity for us! The students always love this activity when we go on our 3rd grade agricultural field trip. It is a hit!!!



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New to Kansas Corn STEM? Check out all of our offerings at [kansascornstem.com](https://www.kansascornstem.com) and request materials [here](#).

Email us at [education@ksgrains.com](mailto:education@ksgrains.com)

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