



Fall is here! We are here to help you continue to have a great year in the classroom. Learn about new lessons and activities available and let us catch you up on all things Kansas Corn STEM.

New Kindergarten Unit - C is for Corn



Kansas Corn STEM released a kindergarten unit, *C is for Corn*, this month. The unit includes a lesson about the letter "C/c". Students will identify words that start with this letter as they listen to the teacher read our book, *We Grow Corn: Raising Corn on a Kansas Family Farm*. Students will spend time playing with corn by trying to identify the parts of an ear of corn, making the letter "C/c" with kernels in PlayDoh, and using an ear of corn as a rolling pin to learn about patterns. The unit ends with students making a craft project--cutting, coloring and gluing parts of an ear of corn and discovering the difference between field corn and Indian corn. This is a great lesson that meets many kindergarten standards while also allowing the students to learn about

corn. To learn more visit [here](#).

Changes to K-1 Lesson

With the addition of the new kindergarten lesson, we have changed the current K-1 unit Kansas Corn: A Kernel's Adventure to be just a first grade unit. Nothing about the lesson has changed except the removal of the modified corn products activity that was adjusted for the kindergarten level. Kindergarten teachers who have been teaching the K-1 lesson and would like to continue to do so can request a first grade refill kit going forward on our website. Kindergarten teachers who have been teaching the K-1 lesson but who now want to teach the new C is for Corn unit can request the new kindergarten kit at any time. REMINDER: For the first grade lesson you need a corn stalk. Make sure you are collecting your corn stalks now. Harvest will end soon. If you need help finding a farmer to provide stalks email us at education@ksgrains.com.

Seed to STEM Middle School Track offered at K-State Olathe



In partnership with the American Royal, Kansas Corn STEM will offer the Seed to STEM Middle School 1.0 track at K-State Olathe on November 14-15. All middle school science teachers in the Kansas City area are encouraged to apply. Participants will practice 12 labs in two days, visit the American Royal for dinner, and tour an ethanol plant. Each teacher will leave with \$500 worth of lab supplies and an opportunity for continued support. The workshop is free and Kansas Corn will pay for substitute costs for the two days. To apply or learn more

visit [here](#).

Plan Ahead!

Kansas Corn STEM provides many great resources to teachers, but due to high demand you need to make your requests at least three weeks in advance to ensure you receive your supplies in time. All requests can be made through our [website request page](#).

Here are popular resources to consider requesting now:

- ✓ Secure a date for [guest speaker](#), Bill Johnston, to visit your classroom.
 - ✓ K-5 Elementary Kits
 - ✓ For Seed to STEM Graduates- Distillation Kits
 - ✓ Ethanol Plant Tour [Funding](#) (6-12 grade)
 - ✓ [Ag Day](#) and Promotional Materials (Germination Necklaces)
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Kylie Lieber Joins Kansas Corn Staff

Kylie Lieber has joined the Kansas Corn Staff as the Education Coordinator. With the growth of the Kansas Corn STEM program, Kylie will be instrumental in managing the distribution and preparation of education supplies, working with Erin Rios, Education Program Manager in the Garnett office. Kylie earned a degree in Bakery Science and Management from Kansas State University and an associate's degree from Coffeyville Community College. She brings logistics and inventory management experience from her past experience working for Corbion as a Research, Development and Application Bakery Technician and her previous position at Cain Food Industries. Kylie's family farms in Osage City,

where she still plays an active role helping on the farm when needed. We are excited to have Kylie as part of our team!

Kansas Corn Farmers... A Valuable Classroom Resource

*Written by: Nancy Smith, First Grade Teacher,
Bentwood Elementary, Olathe*



When you are six and seven years old and your teacher asks you, “Where do we get corn from?” The answer is either the grocery store or the Farmer’s Market. It’s usually not until an image of a corn field is flashed on the screen that someone finally says “from a farm” or “from a cornfield”. Kansas corn farmers are putting forth their best effort to change this by educating young learners about the farm-to-table process, so that when asked where their food comes from, kids have the background knowledge to answer that question.

Knowing that teachers can count on Kansas farmers to provide samples of corn kernels, ears of corn, full corn stalks and more, is a valuable classroom resource. There is no substitute for actual hands-on experiences, and when Kansas farmers are willing to share actual products with

students, everyone wins. Another way that Kansas farmers share their knowledge is through virtual field trips. My students are not able to take a field trip to a working farm, but they can go on a virtual field trip and see the farm operations close up and have opportunities to ask questions of real farmers. This makes their learning so much more meaningful and relevant!

Whether it’s teaching about nutrition or plants and seeds or economics, using Kansas farms as examples allows teachers to get resources that are not available when using a textbook. A helpful hint is for teachers to plan in advance and make contact with farmers before products are needed, as some items, like mature or green corn stalks, are only available at certain times of the year. If a teacher wants to see his/her students excitedly talking about corn and where it comes from, ask a Kansas farmer for some real corn...they are always willing to advance agricultural literacy in classrooms.

Need help locating a farmer in your area? Email education@ksgrains.com and the education team will help get you connected with someone willing to help.

Visit Kansas Corn STEM

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

Email us at education@ksgrains.com

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