VICTORIAN KIDS TO FARM PROJECT

This project is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, through funding from the Australian Government's Educating Kids About Agriculture Initiative.

ENHANCING FOOD AND FIBRE EDUCATION IN VICTORIAN SCHOOLS

This project is a collaboration between Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (PIEFA) and the Victorian Farmers Federation. The project supports teaching and learning of the food and fibre curriculum through:

* VIC Farmer Time

* Free Incursions

*Professional Development and Curriculum Consultation

CONTACT INFORMATION

Allison Arnott
allison.arnott@piefa.edu.au
0483869592

Jayne Johns
jayne.johns.piefa.edu.au
04838870277

@vicfarmertime @vicfarmertime

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OUR PROGRAMS

VIC FARMER TIME

The VIC Farmer Time program creates engaging and interactive food and fibre learning experiences by connecting classrooms with selected primary producers across Victoria. Each online session has a curriculum focus; is targeted to specific year groups; and is supported by accompanying activities (literacy, science, mathematics, etc). Sessions can also support staff in addressing cross-curriculum priorities such as sustainability, to enrich the learning experience. VIC Farmer Time sessions are both pre-recorded (for ease of implementation within your classroom) or can be arranged as a one-on-one opportunity to chat live with farmers for a focused question-and-answer session. Visit our website link to find a VIC Farmer Time that supports your unit of work, or contact Education Officers to arrange a direct video call with your students.

FREE VIC FARMER TIME INCURSIONS

The experienced and qualified Produce It. Protect It. staff offer cross-curricular incursions centred on the Victorian food and fibre curriculum. The free incursion program provides fully resourced, inquiry-based lessons that encourage problem-solving and collaboration between students. Multidisciplinary activities include: curriculum targeted experiments; building prototypes; exploring different enterprises; hands-on learning with food and fibre samples; and, using literacy materials centred on Agriculture and Design Thinking challenges.

We work with schools to tailor incursions to support specific outcomes and priorities, ensuring that our time with your students is relevant and an engaging learning experience.

Current incursion details are attached and can be booked by contacting the Education Officers.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CURRICULUM CONSULTATION

Guidance on materials and learning opportunities that complement units of work or individual lesson plans can be provided by Education Officers. There are a variety of resources available to support and effectively develop programs within schools. Education Officers can provide consultation for teachers - within schools or online - to highlight activities appropriate to a school's curriculum. Online courses will be available for teacher professional development throughout the year and can be accessed through Primezone Academy when available.
https://www.primezone.edu.au/academy/

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INCURSION DETAILS

CURRENT VIC FARMER TIME INCURSIONS

LESSON TIMES AND ACTIVITIES CAN BE MODIFIED IN DISCUSSION WITH EDUCATION OFFICERS

Victorian Education Officers deliver free curriculum-aligned incursions. These incursions include newly designed resources that:

-Are specific to the food and fibre curriculum
-Are hands-on and incorporate experimentation and design skills
-Incorporate a range of food and fibre materials
-Encourage collaboration and positive engagement
-Provide teachers with a foundation to build subsequent experiences within their classrooms

FOUNDATION - 2

Features and Fun on the Farm (60 minutes per lesson)
Lesson One: Features and Needs on the Farm
(pre-recorded VIC Farmer Time available)
Lesson Two: Growing and Changing on the Farm

Food and Fibre All Year Round (90 minutes per lesson)
Lesson One: Seasons and Cycles on the Farm
Lesson Two: Planting and Growing Throughout the Seasons
(pre-recorded VIC Farmer Time available)

5-6

Sustainable Solutions on Farms (120 minutes per lesson)
Lesson One: Biodiversity, Adaptations and Solutions to Support Sustainability
Lesson Two: Agroforestry and Sustainable Solutions for Design
(pre-recorded VIC Farmer Time available)

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INCURSION OVERVIEW

FOUNDATION - 2

Features and Fun on the Farm (60 minutes per lesson)

Lesson One: Features and Needs on the Farm

Throughout this lesson, students will have the opportunity to hear from a Victorian farmer about the operations that occur on her egg farm, highlighting the features of the animals and the ways that food is selected, prepared safely and hygienically for distribution to consumers. Through sensory learning experiences, students will develop a greater understanding of the different fibres used in daily life and the features of the plants or animals that produce them. Students will learn about the way that chickens grow and change and will apply their design skills when creating a craft egg carton chicken.

(VCSSU041, VCELY174, VCELY210, VCELY244, VCSSU042, VCSSU044, VCDSTC015, VCDSTC016, VCSIS050, VCSIS054, VCSIS055).

Lesson Two: Growing and Changing on the Farm

Students will gain an understanding of how farm animals can grow and change over time and the needs of these animals as they grow. Students will specifically learn about the growth of sheep and their subsequent needs through multimedia clips, hands-on engagement and modelling tasks. Students will engage with an interactive text, design their own 'funny farm animal' and suggest the characteristics and needs of their new animals. Students will also have the opportunity to listen to literacy material centred on the growing and changing of a special Alpaca.

(VCSSU043, VCDSTC015, VCSSU041, VCSSU042, VCSIS050, VCSIS051, VCSIS055, VCMMG079, VCELY174, VCELY210, VCELY244).

Food and Fibre All Year Round (90 minutes per lesson)

Lesson One: Seasons and Cycles on the Farm

Throughout this lesson, students will have the opportunity to utilise their senses as they observe changes in the seasons and share their observations with others. Students will compare the seasonal calendar of the Traditional Owners of Victoria's Eastern Kulin region with the four seasons calendar derived from Europe. This comparison will allow students to develop an understanding of the ways that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People apply their extensive knowledge of the land, sea and sky to measure the seasons. Students will listen and respond to a text about a year on a farm, utilising comprehension strategies to sequence the activities in the story. They'll then apply their design skills using different materials, equipment and techniques to create their own paper plate sheep craft.

(VCDSTC015, VCDSCD020, VCSSU041, VCSSU042, VCSSU043, VCSSU046, VCSIS050, VCSIS051, VCSIS054, VCSIS055, VCELY210, VCELY244, VCELT150, VCELY186, VCELY222, VCGGK067).

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INCURSION OVERVIEW

Lesson Two: **Planting and Growing Throughout the Seasons**
Students will have the opportunity to hear from a Victorian farmer about the operations that occur on their farm and how seasons influence the farmer, animals, plants and the environment. They will learn about the ideal conditions for plant growth and perform a first-hand investigation of how temperature can impact the germination and growth of seeds. Students will then continue to engage with the topic of growth throughout seasons, by completing an activity focused on displaying seasonal produce and observing features of selected plants from seed to end product. Students will conclude the lesson by performing an activity focused on data collection by creating a class graph of their favourite seasonal food.

(VCDSTC015, VCSSU041, VCSSU042, VCSSU043, VCSSU046, VCSIS051, VCELY174, VCELY210, VCELY244).

5 - 6

Sustainable Solutions on Farms (120 minutes per lesson)

Lesson One: **Biodiversity, Adaptations and Solutions to Support Sustainability**
Students will have the opportunity to engage in learning about the importance of biodiversity and protecting it in all ecosystems. They will identify concerns in agriculture and suggest ways that we have control over these concerns. Students will work as a team to perform a first-hand investigation related to the independence of living and non-living components of an agricultural environment. They will learn about adaptations and how living organisms interact with the environment. Finally, students will use elements of Design Thinking to problem-solve a task and create a prototype of a fantasy farm organism that is super adapted to provide food or fibre in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable way.

(VCSSU073, VCSSU074, VCSSU075, VCSIS082, VCSIS084, VCSIS088, VCDSTC035, VCELY366, VCDSCD039).

Lesson Two: **Agroforestry and Sustainable Solutions for Design**
Students will have the opportunity to hear from two Victorian producers about the operations that occur on their sheep and agroforestry farm. Students will learn about agroforestry as a solution to supporting sustainability in agriculture and develop an understanding of interdependence within a farming system. Students will apply their design skills to create their own farm logo and will work collaboratively to explore the ways materials from trees can be used as sustainable alternatives for design, by creating a prototype of a toy using materials from trees.

(VCDSCD038, VCDSCD039, VCDSCD040, VCDSCD041, VCDSTC035, VCELY366, VCELY337, VCSSU073, VCSSU074, VCSSU075).

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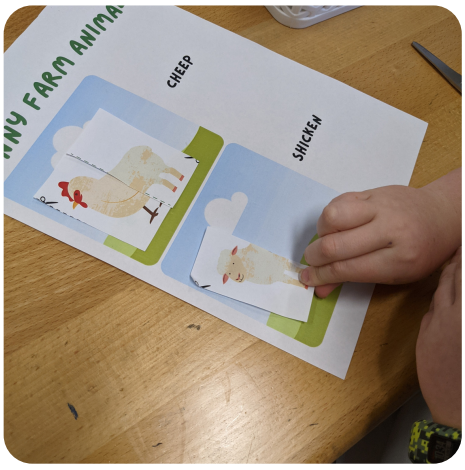
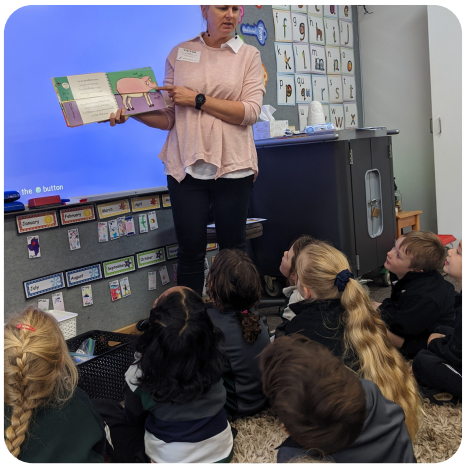
PRODUCE IT.
PROTECT IT.

INCURSION GALLERY