

# KDS Middle School Teacher Learns about Ag in the Classroom

by Stephanie Guffey, KDS Middle School Teacher

Greetings! My name is Stephanie Guffey, and I teach sixth and seventh grade science at KDS DAR Middle School. Thanks to the generosity of the DAR and the Alabama Farmers Federation, I had the privilege of attending my first “Alabama Ag in the Classroom” workshop this year. “Ag in the Classroom” is an interdisciplinary educational program that promotes ag literacy for students in grades K-12, making students aware of the importance of agriculture in their daily lives.



The workshop was May 29 through June 1 and was held in Mobile, Alabama. My first day was spent meeting teachers from throughout the state who have incorporated Alabama agriculture into their classrooms. We learned ways to incorporate agriculture into history, math, science and English. Two of my favorite lessons from that day were "Alabama Commodities" for the history classroom and "Becoming a Water molecule" for the science classroom. Day two, we toured farms around Grand Bay, Alabama. We visited a dairy farm, a sod farm, a peanut farm, and a produce farm. All of the farms we visited were large, consisting of hundreds or even thousands of acres of land. We listened to the farmers' struggles, their successes, and gained some insight on things they would like for us to teach our students. It was a wonderful day and by far my favorite! My last day consisted of make-

and-take lessons with teachers and graduation. During graduation each teacher received a large tote with more than \$300 worth of agricultural books and activities for our classrooms. I was also the winner of a Soy Bean Science Kit worth more than \$300 as well!

“Alabama Ag in the Classroom” was by far the BEST workshop I have been to in a long time and I hope to attend next year! Thank you!

