Maine Agriculture in the Classroom
Potatoes Resource Page

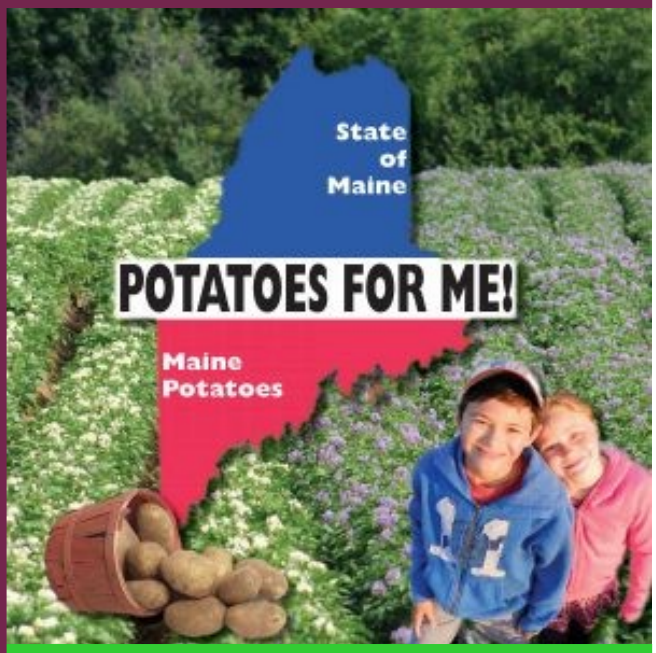
www.MaineAgintheClassroom.org

You can read our Potatoes for ME book right from our website on your computer or smart device, or project onto a screen or smart board!

Our Teach ME Food and Farms website has loads of activities to accompany the potato book:

- Maine Potato Math,
- Maine Potato Festival Language Arts,
- Potato Plant Part Coloring,
- Potato Recipes & Nutrition Facts,
- Potato-Gram, Maze, Word Search, Crossword,

& much more!



Funding from this Specialty License plate and the ***Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry*** supports teacher curriculum materials connecting classrooms to the HARVEST OF THE MONTH project! Please thank everyone you know with this plate!

Teachers can register for a ***Harvest of Curricula*** to support Maine Farmers and producers, and harvest of the month! For Direct delivery to your inbox **Sign up here!**

Suggested MAITC Lesson Plans for Educators

(Aligned to State & National Standards)
www.TeachMEFoodandFarms.org

- Potato. Grades 2-5. Students will be able to explain the history of potatoes and locate where they are grown on a Maine map. They will be able to identify the parts of a potato plant and write directions for planting and optimal growth. Students will also write stories about Mr. Potato for younger students and participate in composting activities.
- Investigating Potatoes. Grades 3-5. Students will work in small groups and with Maine maps, find the areas of the state where potatoes are grown on a large scale. They will research the nutritional and health benefits of potatoes as well as the economic importance of potatoes to Maine. Students will interview a local farmer about his potato crop, challenges faced by potato farmers and write a news article about potatoes.
- Let's Grow Potatoes. Grades 3-5. Students will work in small groups to research the life cycle of potatoes and learn about the growing process from a local farmer. They will plant, care for, measure growth of plants and chart the growth of the classroom potatoes.

LESSONS FROM THE

National Agriculture in the Classroom

CURRICULUM MATRIX

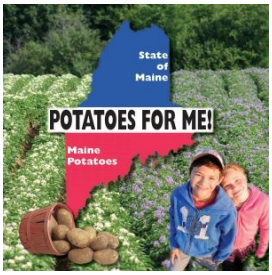
Searchable directly from the MAITC Home page

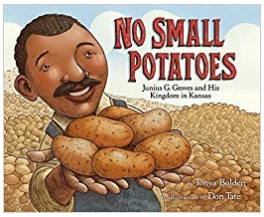
January is Potato Month!

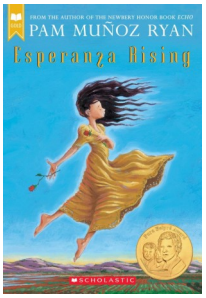
Check out these great Agriculture lessons from our National Ag Literacy Curriculum Matrix

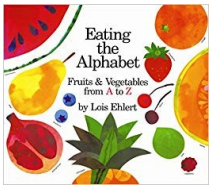
- The Farmer Grows a Rainbow: Second Servings. Grades K-2. Students will understand that appropriate portions of foods from each food group should be included in a daily diet.
- Powerful Potato. Grades 3-5. Students will explore life science concepts by observing a potato grow with and without soil. They will further learn about geography and world cultures by charting potato geography on a world map and holding a potato dress up contest.
- Where Does it Come From? Grades 3-5. Students will explore the connection between geography, climate, and the type of agriculture in an area by reading background information and census data about the agricultural commodities beef, potatoes, apples, wheat, corn, and milk.
- Esperanza Rising. Grades 3-5. Students will read the novel Esperanza Rising written by Pam Munoz Ryan to learn more about migrant workers, agricultural economics, the impact of agriculture to rural communities, agricultural history, and how fruits and vegetables have been harvested historically and are harvested currently.
- Microbes - They're Everywhere! Grades 6-8. Students will explore the varied roles that microorganisms play in the world as well as different methods for controlling their growth. Activities include using a dichotomous key to identify waterborne diseases, comparing effectiveness of handwashing techniques, reading fictional and factual excerpts about microbes, and experimenting with the growth of microorganisms on potato slices.
- Digging Into Nutrients. Grades 6-8. In this lesson, students will gain background knowledge of the nutrient requirements of plants, how those nutrients are obtained by the plant, what farmers must do if the nutrients are not available in soils, and current issues related to agricultural production.
- Before the Plate. Grades 9-12. Students will view the 2018 documentary Before the Plate and follow Canadian chef John Horne as he journeys to the source of ten primary food ingredients used in his restaurant. Using critical thinking skills, students will explore the farm-to-table journey of food.
- Source Search. Grades 9-12. In this lesson students will learn that agriculture provides nearly all of the products we rely on in any given day by participating in a relay where they match an everyday item with its "source."

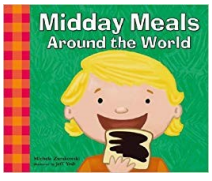
Great Books about Potatoes!

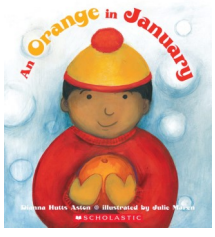












Check out the video from our January newsletter. Sign up for our newsletter here!