

You can make a difference!

Ag in the Classroom volunteers needed

Every year in February, farm and agribusiness volunteers deliver Ag in the Classroom (AITC) lessons in 1st-4th grade classrooms across DeKalb County.

Volunteer training will take place at Farm Bureau on **Tuesday, January 28 at 6:30 p.m.** All four lessons will be reviewed.

Presentation supplies will be available for pick up and return at Farm Bureau beginning the night of training and continuing through early March.

What will the AITC presentations accomplish?

Ag in the Classroom lessons are designed to:

- ◆ Teach students how farms provide food, clothing, and everyday products.
- ◆ Connect students with real-life farmers and agribusiness men and women.
- ◆ Immerse students in engaging activities that increase their awareness of agriculture.

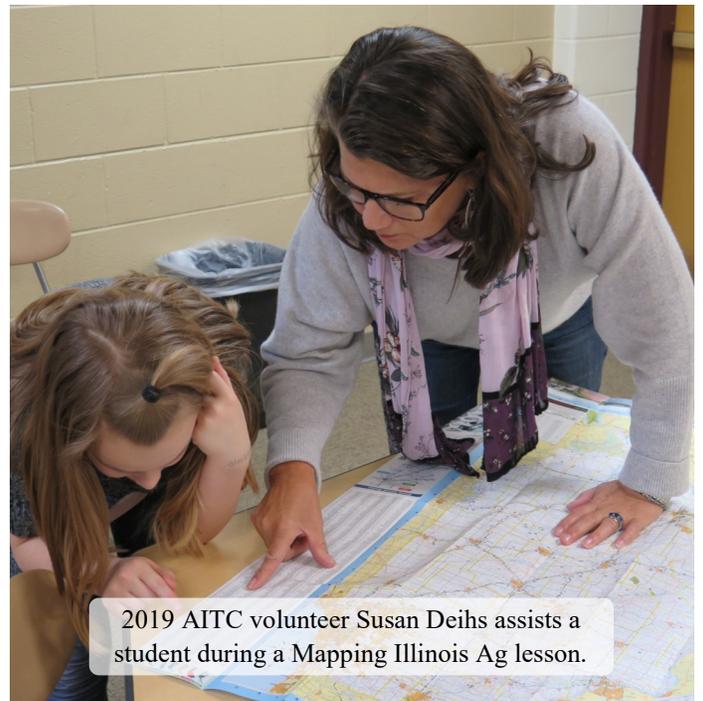
Who visits classrooms to conduct AITC lessons?

You! AITC volunteers are people willing to share their time and ag expertise, including farmers, agri-business people, FFA members, and others passionate about the ag industry. Last year nearly 90 volunteers delivered AITC lessons in 148 classrooms.

How are volunteers matched with classrooms?

- ◆ Teachers submit request forms with their contact information and preferred presentation times.
- ◆ Volunteers view the list of classrooms posted at www.GrowYoungMinds.org in mid-January. They e-mail rcollins@dekalbfarmbureau.org to reserve the classrooms they wish to visit.
- ◆ Volunteers receive copies of teachers' request forms and use this information to schedule with teachers.

For more information, please contact Rhodora at rcollins@dekalbfarmbureau.org or 815-756-6361.



2019 AITC volunteer Susan Deihs assists a student during a Mapping Illinois Ag lesson.

What will students learn?

A unique lesson has been created for each grade:

1st Grade – More Than a Seed

- ◆ What are the steps of crop production?
- ◆ What do seeds need in order to germinate?
- ◆ Students plant corn & soybean seeds and learn how those crops impact their own lives.

2nd Grade – From Cow to Ice Cream

- ◆ Where does milk come from?
- ◆ What are the steps of dairy production and how do farmers keep cows healthy?
- ◆ Students make their own ice cream and learn why dairy is important in a healthy diet.

3rd Grade – It's an Earful

- ◆ How do farmers grow and harvest corn?
- ◆ How is corn used and how does it help us?
- ◆ Students examine the life cycle of corn, dissect a kernel, and investigate types and uses of corn.

4th Grade – Mapping Illinois Agriculture

- ◆ How does agriculture connect to our lives?
- ◆ How do you find locations on a road map?
- ◆ Students identify Illinois agricultural products and use maps to locate ag-related sites.