**January 28, 2020**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at [kdaugherty@ilfb.org](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

*Teachers want to be sure to get this in a timely fashion? Sign up for your copy to be directly emailed at* <http://www.agintheclassroom.org/FWArticle/fwarticle.shtml>

**Take advantage of winter shop time to calibrate planter**

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Use the article titled:

**Take advantage of winter ship time to calibrate planter**

1. As you read the article, look for the ‘so-what’. Why is this article important to farmers across Illinois?
2. Define the following:
   1. Inputs
   2. Calibrating
   3. Pitfalls
   4. Emergence
   5. Singulation
   6. Furrow
3. Why should farmers and input suppliers care about maintenance in the winter?
4. Using the article is there a way to compare farmers to students?

Answer Key

1. Answers will vary but could include the cost to run a 16 row planter averages $3,096 per hour. Think of the number of hours farmer spend operating planters in the spring, and the ‘So What’ becomes very important!
2. Inputs-what is put in, taken in, operated on by a process or system. In the case of farming, seed, fuel, fertilizer, insecticide-
3. Calibrating-to carefully assess, set or adjust
4. Pitfalls- a trap or danger
5. Emergence-the process of coming into view
6. Singulation-spacing as defined in the article
7. Furrow-a narrow grove made in the ground
8. Answers will vary, but should include the cost of inputs and cost of growing the crop as well as the limited time frame to plant in the spring.
9. Answers will vary, but instead of waiting to study the week before finals or the end of the year, if you plan a little now you will be better prepared!