**November 18, 2019**

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.

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

<http://digital.farmweeknow.com/app.php?RelId=6.2.2.7>

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>

On a roll: Ag education expansion continues in Illinois: More schools, more teachers focus on ag

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

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.* <http://digital.farmweeknow.com/app.php?RelId=6.2.2.7>

Use the article titled:

**On a roll: Ag education expansion continues in Illinois: More schools, more teachers focus on ag**

1. What does FCAE stand for?
2. How many Illinois schools are offering agriculture courses this year?
3. Why do you think new ag programs are emerging at the junior high level?
4. 10 schools opened new agriculture programs this year. What do you notice about the schools in Rolling Meadows, Edwardsville and Peoria?
5. What is the goal of the GAST grant?
6. 60% of high school ag teachers in Illinois now have a 12 month contract, what does that mean to you?
7. Last year, Illinois colleges graduated 25 new High School Ag Teachers, next year that number should jump to the upper 30’s. However, in 2019 17 ag teachers retired and 25 left the professions. What do you see as an issue with the 2019 trend with ag teachers?

Answer Key

1. Facilitating Coordination in Ag Education
2. 354
3. Answers will vary, but could include start up grants for schools as well as increased interest in ag as a career.
4. Answers will vary, but those schools are in more urbanized locations, where you might not typically associate agriculture as a course offering.
5. The goal of GAST is to address the shortage of ag science teachers
6. Answers will vary, but teaches typically have a 9 month (School year) contract. The extra time allows ag teachers to assist students and programs over the summer.
7. Answers will vary, but we aren’t graduating enough ag teachers. At the moment there is a need for more ag teachers.