

AG PEN PAL PROGRAM!

Preparing for a Classroom Visit

1. Ask Questions

- a. What is the school policy on food being served to students?
 - i. Are there any food allergies?
- b. What is the school policy on animals being brought into the building?
- c. Do I need a criminal background check prior to the visit?

2. Choose an Activity

- a. Activity Guide
 - i. Lead an activity such as, Farming in a Glove, to plant seeds. Use this as an opportunity to talk about the seeds you grow on your farm/ranch.
- b. Ag Literacy Guide
 - i. Read a book and then lead an activity related to the book. This guide is full of information to ask questions. Focus on the extension activities. Check out Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic. You could bring in Edamame to make the connection to agriculture!
- c. PowerPoint
 - i. Create a presentation with photos, videos and information about your farm or ranch. This allows to creatively showcase what you do as a farmer/rancher.
 - ii. Bring props such as a rope, seeds, ear tags and other items used daily on the farm/ranch.
- d. Agriculture Reading Hour
 - i. Receive a free book from the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation, read it to a classroom, take a photo, and then donate the book to the classroom. (Limited books)

3. Choose a Time

- a. Teachers often want to visit in the fall or spring.
- b. Use national holidays to visit. Examples:
 - i. National Farm City Week: November 19 -25
 - ii. National FFA Week February 17-24
 - iii. National Ag Week: March 18 -24
 - iv. National Cookie Day: December 4
 - v. National Popcorn String Day: December 13
 - vi. National Chocolate Covered Anything Day: December 16