



Ag Heroes and Heroines

Grade level: Middle School, High School

Objective:

Students will be able to describe the important accomplishments of Iowans who have contributed to the field of agriculture.

Method:

Students identify people- through news media, current events, or other means- who have made contributions to agriculture; research their contributions, and write a biography.

Background:

Students often write a research paper about people who are famous and well known in history and or culture. Yet, all around us, there are people that are working to find ways to produce enough food for a growing population. Others are finding new uses and improving practices in raising current crops.

Procedure:

1. Introduce the activity by explaining the purpose with emphasis on the fact that the students will be researching a fellow Iowan from the Heritage Area.
2. Brainstorm as a class, potential people that have contributed to agriculture.
3. Once a list of names have been compiled, students in groups of three or four should now draw two names and find out if that individual is from Iowa.
4. After enough Iowans have been identified, each student draws one name to further research their contributions to agriculture.

Evaluation:

1. Name two people who have helped advance agriculture and food production and describe what each did. Why are their actions important?
2. What can you do to help feed the world?