

READ, RENEW, REPEAT



SUMMER 2024

An iREAD Summer
Reading Companion
from

Illinois
AGRICULTURE
in the ClassroomSM

AG-ACCURATE BOOK RECOMMENDATION:

ACCOMPANYING IAIRC LESSON:

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind
by William Kamkwamba & Bryan Mealer

A Windy Lift: Learn about sustainable energy with this windmill inquiry activity!

We Are Water Protectors by Carol Lindstrom

Water Cycle in a Bag: See the water cycle happen right before your eyes using a few simple materials and a ziplock bag!

Compost Stew by Mary McKenna Siddals

Classroom Vermicomposting: Learn about using worms to convert food waste into rich soil by building and maintaining a classroom "vermicomposter."

The Last Straw: Kids vs. Plastic by Susan Hood

Soybean Plastic: Learn more about the science behind plastics with this fun and engaging activity using soybeans, one of the most widely grown crops in Illinois.

Harlem Grown: How One Big Idea Transformed a Neighborhood by Tony Hillery

Garden in a Glove: Have students start their very own garden and learn how seeds germinate and begin to turn into plants, all within a single glove!

Buzzing with Questions: The Inquisitive Mind of Charles Henry Turner by Janice N. Harrington

Scientific Inquiry Worksheet: Help students learn about scientific inquiry with this experimental design activity!

If Bees Disappeared by Lily Williams

Build A Bee Hotel: Let students be creative as they learn about the importance of pollinator habitats with this fun STEM activity.

Butterflies Belong Here by Deborah Hopkinson

Throw and Grow: Create a new habitat for pollinators using wildflower seeds, modeling clay, and potting soil.

Secrets of the Garden: Food Chains and the Food Web in Our Back Yard Luck by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld

Circle of Earth Bracelet: Learn about the "circles" of the Earth and recognize the importance of the connections between natural resources.

Time to Shine by Catherine Daly

Solar Oven: Learn how to harness the power of the sun to cook food with this fun STEM activity.

Listen to the Language of the Trees
by Tera Kelley

Healthy Trees: Apple Addition: Get students out of their seats to learn about the many factors necessary to grow healthy apple trees.

Erosion: How Hugh Bennett Saved America's Soil and Ended the Dust Bowl by Darcy Pattison

Soil Your Undies: Bury your undies underground and let the critters in the soil decompose them over time.

Flowers are Calling by Rita Gray

Parts of a Flower: Make a simple model of the four flower parts and their functions.

Seed, Soil, Sun: Earth's Recipe for Food
by Cris Peterson

A Slice of Soil: Demonstrate how little of Earth's surface we can grow food on.

Find all these lessons and more at <https://iairc.co/iread24>