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Why are you attending the
**2015 California
Agriculture in the
Classroom Conference?**

“After having the garden for 14 plus years, it is always good to get new ideas and increased motivation to continue my efforts to teach students about the environment, food and nutrition, and where food comes from.”

-Dianne Swanson
Kindergarten Teacher
Los Cerritos Elementary School

Teacher Feature - Dianne Swanson

DID YOU KNOW?!

Although its commonly considered to be Italian or Mediterranean, basil originated in Asia! It is best grown in the hot sun.

**California Agriculture
in the Classroom
Conference**

[Program At A Glance](#)

See what's happening on The Queen Mary this October 22-24.



Follow us!

Hear about Phillip

Teaches: Kindergarten

School: Los Cerritos Elementary School,
Long Beach Unified School District

Why are you attending our conference this year?

I am attending to reinvigorate my program in regards to ag and teaching in the garden. Los Cerritos was recently named a US and a California Green Ribbon School, and the garden was a big part of why we were selected. After having the garden for 14 plus years, it is always good to get new ideas and increased motivation to continue my efforts to teach my students about the environment, food and nutrition, and where the food comes from. Plus the conference is fun, and I get to see Judy!

What do you think educators gain from attending?

I think that the conference is a lot of fun, and it is motivating to meet like-minded people who place importance on agriculture. There is also something for everyone at the conference, whether you garden in a pot, have a full blown garden or just want to taste fresh produce in the classroom.

How many conferences have you attended?

This will be my seventh time attending the California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. I have also attended two National Agriculture in the Classroom Conferences.

2. 2015 California Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher Conference

October 22-24, 2015

The Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA

[Register today!](#) Download the [Program At A Glance](#).

Please call (800) 700-2482 or email info@learnaboutag.org with questions.

See full details are located on the [website!](#)

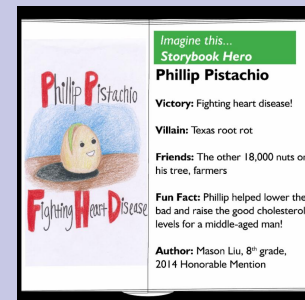
Make your hotel reservation now!

Deadline: October 9, 2015

Pistachio, other

Imagine

this...storybook heroes,
along with conference
and program news on
[Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)
#LearnAboutAg





Perfect Pear Special: Refer a friend, and each of you will receive 10% off registration. Call to receive.

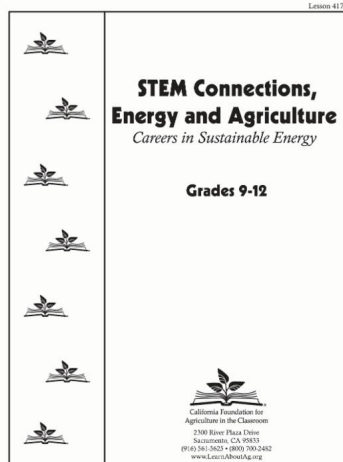
Want to share your great idea at our conference?
Applications for Make 'n' Take presenters are still being accepted.

3. *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest **Deadline: Nov. 1, 2014**

Students will write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events based on accurate information regarding California agriculture. The contest meets Common Core State Standards for narrative and informative writing, and gives students from all across the state a chance to shine! Visit our [website](#) for more information and to download the entry form. You can also [read a book](#) of past state-winning stories!



4. NEW Resource **STEM Connections, Energy and** **Agriculture:** **Careers in Sustainable Energy**



This five-lesson unit with a laboratory for grades 9-12

promotes the development of STEM abilities and critical thinking skills, while fostering an appreciation for energy and its importance to food production. Receive a stipend for using this new curriculum in your classroom and completing an evaluation. Contact DeAnn Tenhunfeld for details at 916-561-5628 or deann@learnaboutag.org. [Download or order](#) the unit.

5. Seed Survivor Mobile

The Seed Survivor mobile display will be making its way across California soon, visiting students in grades K-6. The registration form will be available on SeedSurvivor.com one month before the trailer makes its way to each region. Please contact Liz Baskins at 916-561-5637 or liz@learnaboutag.org with any questions.

- Northern California: November 16 - January 15
- Central California: January 18- February 29
- Southern California: March 1- March 31

6. Statewide Workshops and Events

Schoolyard Habitat Workshop, Santa Rosa

- Wednesday, October 7
- Design a habitat project with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards
- Qualify for up to \$5,000 in project funding
- Contact Laurel Anderson at schoolhabitats@gmail.com.

Growing Edible Education Symposium, Santa Barbara

- Friday-Saturday, October 9-10
- Register [online!](#)
- Best practices in farm visits, curriculum-based garden education and school food service

California Green Schools & Community Colleges Summit, Pasadena

- Thursday-Friday, October 29-30
- Green programs in K-12 schools
- Register [online!](#)

LifeLab Workshops, UC Santa Cruz

- **The Growing Classroom: 2-Day Intensive Garden-Based Learning (Grades 2-6)**
 - Thursday-Friday, November 5-6
- **Next Generation Science in the Garden**
 - Wednesday, November 18
- Register for these events and other LifeLab workshops at www.lifelab.org.

Plan a [Virtual Field Trip](#) to Longwood Gardens!

- K-12 grade, 30-45 minute programs
- Offered Tuesday-Friday, September-June

7. Grant Opportunities

CalAgPlate Program Funds

- [Submit a grant proposal](#) by October 26, 2015.
- Grants will support agricultural education and leadership activities for K-12, post-secondary and adult education levels.

Let it Grow Contest

[Vote daily](#) for a school of your choice to win a \$5,000 agricultural grant from the Nutrients for Life Foundation. The contest closes on March 7, 2016.



County - Local Events

Merced County- Farm2U Day

October 8, 2015

- Educational event for third-graders
- Volunteers needed
- Details at: [Merced County Farm Bureau](#)

Tulare County Youth Leadership Class

- High school sophomores are encouraged to apply by May 1st.
- Read more at: [Tulare County Farm Bureau](#)



Monterey County- FREP/WPHA Conference

November 5-6

Nutrient Management: Challenges and Opportunities.

- Current research on nutrient management
- Located at Embassy Suites in Seaside, CA
- Details at: [Western Plant Health Association](#)



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Help us continue to provide programs and materials to create an awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students.

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