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### **1. Teacher Feature - Marianne Barrell**

**Teaches:** Fourth Grade, School Garden Coordinator (K-6)

**School:** Penngrove Elementary School in Sonoma, California



California Foundation for  
Agriculture in the Classroom

#### **DID YOU KNOW?!**

California-grown  
Mandarins are in  
season from November  
to April.

Marianne Barrell was selected as one of this past year's *Look at Agriculture... Organically!* grant recipients for her *Kitchen Classroom* project. Marianne's project is now taking the Penngrove Elementary school garden to the next level.

#### **What's your *Classroom Kitchen* project?**

Students prepare meals with a rolling *Classroom Kitchen* using a blender and a hot plate with the produce they harvest and additional purchased ingredients. The wheeled kitchen island was assembled by students, and is already in use. Fourth-grade students have prepared and enjoyed blueberry smoothies. More than 60 kindergarten, first, and sixth-grade students prepared apple sauce from freshly-picked, organic apples and served it to the whole school. The sixth-graders also made signs with information about the apples. This past March, 30 students harvested kale and used it to make a traditional Irish dish. The *Classroom Kitchen* builds social skills and encourages cooperation. The student body has been able to share in this social experience and the pride of growing their own food.

#### **How will this project enhance your school garden?**

The project has opened new avenues for creativity, so students can experience fresh foods and experiment with the flavors, colors, and textures of the fruits and vegetables grown in the garden. In the future, students will present their discoveries and insights to the school, their parents and the public by writing, making oral presentations, videos, slide shows, and news articles.

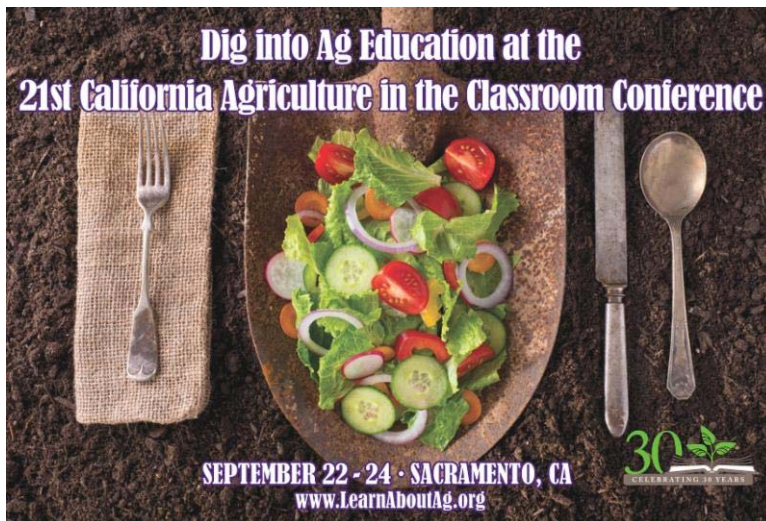
## **2. Look at Agriculture... Organically! Now Accepting Grant Applications.**

The *Look at Agriculture... Organically!* grants are designed to creatively enhance the understanding of organic agriculture. Grants of up to \$1,000 will be provided to certified K-8 educators nationwide. **The grant application period will open on Friday, April 1, 2016 and will close on Sunday, May 15, 2016. [Apply online.](#)**



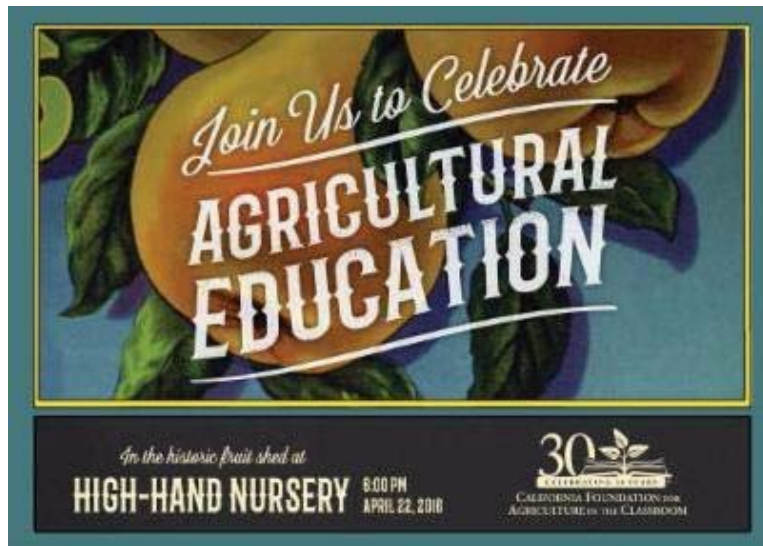
## **3. California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference - Sacramento September 22-24, 2016**

We are seeking enthusiastic presenters who would like to share their expertise, experience and educational resources with conference attendees. [Proposals](#) are being accepted to present Make 'n' Takes sessions, exhibit at the conference, or host a *Taste of California* dinner table! Conference registration will open on May 1, 2016.



#### 4. Celebrate 30 Years of Agricultural Education at High-Hand Nursery Event

Join us for a dinner, silent auction and more as we celebrate our 30th anniversary at the historic High-Hand Nursery in Loomis, California on Friday, April 22. Ticket and sponsorship information can be found at [www.LearnAboutAg.org](http://www.LearnAboutAg.org). You may purchase tickets online or contact Lyn Hyatt at [Lyn@LearnAboutAg.org](mailto:Lyn@LearnAboutAg.org) or 800-700-2482.



#### 5. Imagine this... State-Winning Authors Recognized at State Capitol

State-winning authors from the *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest were honored at the State Capitol on March 16, 2016. The authors also met the high school art students who illustrated their story for the book, *Imagine this... Stories Inspired by Agriculture 2015*. More information can be found at [www.LearnAboutAg.org](http://www.LearnAboutAg.org), and more photos can be found on our [Facebook](#) page. Books can be purchased by contacting Terri Salmond at [Terri@LearnAboutAg.org](mailto:Terri@LearnAboutAg.org) or 800-700-2482.



## 6. Seed Survivor Mobile - CA Tour Reaches more than 22,000 Students

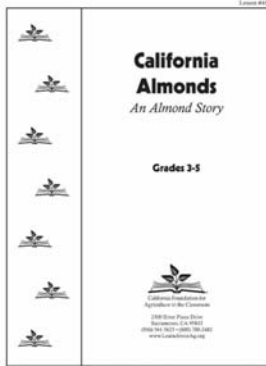
Thank you to everyone who helped set up a visit or provide a presentation. The California tour of the Seed Survivor Mobile educational unit has reached more than 22,000 students!



## 7. New Resource - California Almonds: An Almond Story

This [five-lesson unit](#) for grades 3-5 teaches about all aspects of the almond industry. Students will learn about the people involved in growing almonds, development of

almond trees and nuts, almond processing, different uses of almonds, almond history, and nutritional information.



## 8. Statewide/Nationwide Events, Competitions, & More!

### 5th Annual Healthy Lunchtime Challenge!

Kids 8-12 years old are invited to join a parent or guardian in creating an original MyPlate-inspired recipe that is healthy, creative, affordable and delicious. [Recipes must be submitted](#) by April 4, 2016.

### LifeLab Workshops and Camps, UC Santa Cruz

- Common Core in the Garden
  - Friday, May 6, 2016
- Summer Camps
  - Register for camps for ages 4-18
  - Camp registration is now open

Register for these activities and more with [LifeLab](#).



## 9. County Ag Days

April 21, 2016 - **San Diego Ag in the Classroom's** [Teacher Resource Fair](#)

April 29, 2016 - **Yolo County's** [Farm Connection Day](#)

May 3, 2016 - **Los Angeles County's** [Kid's Ag Day](#)

May 6, 2016 - **Merced County's** [Teacher Appreciation Night](#)

May 10, 2016 - **Solano County Fair's** [Youth Ag Day](#)

May 10, 2016 - **El Dorado County's [Farm Day](#)**  
*Presenters needed.*

## 10. More Ways to Learn About Ag

### **High School Lessons: Cultivating Conversations**

- The [downloadable lesson plans](#) are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards and agribusiness standards under the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc). The lessons incorporate clips from the award-winning documentary, *Farmland*.

**Nevada, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties** - Join in the conversation to better promote and connect schools with local farms. [Learn more and register](#) for the Mother Lode Farm to School Network's regional gathering on **April 16, 2016**.

**Los Angeles County** - A series of free Smart Gardening beginner and advanced workshops are being offered from **now until the end of May** by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. See the [full schedule](#).

**San Diego County** - The Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County is [offering scholarships to high school seniors](#). Deadline: **April 11, 2016**. The organization is also offering one full [scholarship for their 2016 Range Camp](#).

**Napa County Farm Bureau** - The Annual Meadow Muffin Ag Education Golf Classic takes place on Friday, **May 13, 2016**. [Register online](#) with the Napa County Farm Bureau.

**Merced County** - Hilmar Cheese Company offers free [educational tours](#).

**King's County- [Education & Agriculture Together \(EAT\) Foundation's](#)** Summer Workshop Dates:

- Session 1: June 13-16, 2016
- Session 2: July 11-14, 2016



### **Show Your Support for Agricultural Literacy**

Help us continue to provide programs and materials to create an awareness and understanding of agriculture

among California's educators and students.  
[Make a one-time or recurring donation.](#)

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