

**Integration of
Agriculture
Appraisal**



**The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Department of Human and Community Development and
Illinois State Board of Education**

Spring, 2003

Integration of Agriculture Appraisal

The purpose of this study is to learn what elementary teachers think about integrating agriculture into their instruction. Please read each statement and immediately respond with your initial reaction. **Do not read into the statements.** We are only interested in your frank opinions. There are no correct or incorrect answers. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential and will not be identified by name.

This questionnaire should take you about 15 minutes. There are 3 parts to this questionnaire. Please complete Section I, II, and III using the following scales:

Section I

Instructions: Please indicate your personal opinion about each statement by circling the appropriate response at the right of each statement.

Not at all
Very Little
Some Influence
Quite A Bit
A Great Deal

0. How well can you develop activities about agriculture?..... 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Section II

Instructions: Please indicate your personal opinion about each statement by circling the appropriate response at the right of each statement.

Strongly Disagree
Moderately Disagree
Slightly Disagree
Slightly Agree
Moderately Agree
Strongly Agree

0. Integrating agriculture into my instruction has no purpose..... 1 2 3 4 5 6

Section III

Instructions: Please indicate the **frequency** that you teach each of the following topics to your students.

Never
Once per year
Once per quarter
Once per month
Once per week

0. How many times a year do you teach your students about seeds?..... 0 1 2 3 4

Section IV asks you to share some information about yourself.

Please feel free to email Neil Knobloch at nknobloc@uiuc.edu or 217-244-8093 if you have any questions. We thank you for your time and consideration!

Part I: Appraisal Inventory

A number of statements about integrating agriculture are presented below.

Instructions: Please indicate your personal opinion about each statement by circling the appropriate response at the right of each statement.

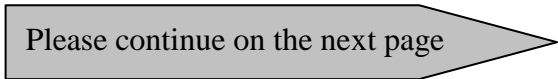
	} Not at all Very Little Some Influence Quite A Bit A Great Deal								
1. How well can you develop activities that engage students to learn about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2. How well can you identify resources that can be used to teach about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3. How well can you use activities that engage students to learn about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4. How well can you get your students excited about learning agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
5. How well can you adjust your lessons to teach about agriculture?...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6. How well can you connect agricultural activities to the Illinois Learning Standards?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7. How much can you connect your subject area(s) to the real world through agricultural examples?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8. How well can you accommodate different learning styles when teaching agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9. How much can you motivate your students to learn about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10. How much can you foster student creativity while integrating agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11. How much can you help your students think critically about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Please continue on the next page

PART I
Continued



	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; padding: 0 10px;"> Not at all Very Little Some Influence Quite A Bit A Great Deal </div>								
12. How well can you make agriculture meaningful to your students?	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13. How well can you adapt your assessment strategies to assess students' knowledge of agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14. How well can you respond to difficult questions from your students about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15. To what extent can you collaborate with other teachers when integrating agriculture into the curriculum?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16. How much can you monitor student comprehension of agriculture based on what you have taught?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
17. To what extent can you craft good questions about agriculture for your students?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
18. How well can you adapt resources to teach about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19. How much can you do to help your students value learning about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
20. How well can you provide alternative explanations or examples when students are confused about agriculture?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
21. How well can you provide appropriate challenges about agriculture for very capable students?.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9



Part II: Appraisal Inventory

This section is designed to help us gain a better understanding of the opinions of elementary teachers are about integrating agriculture.

Instructions: Please indicate your personal opinion about each statement by circling the appropriate response at the right of each statement.

	Strongly Disagree					
Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree	

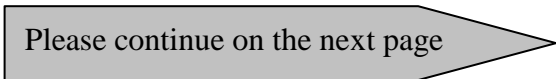
- | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would be make me feel like I accomplished something..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 2. Integrating agriculture into my classroom would make other teachers interested in my instructional activities..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 3. Integrating agriculture into my classroom would create parental interest and support..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4. My administrators would look favorably upon me as a teacher if I integrated agriculture into my classroom..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 5. My teaching colleagues would disapprove of me if I integrated agriculture into my instruction..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 6. Integrating agriculture into my classroom would make me look like a better teacher..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7. I could get additional funding for instructional resources if I integrated agriculture into my classroom..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 8. I would gain more respect as a teacher if I integrated agriculture into my classroom..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 9. Integrating agriculture would reward me professionally..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 10. Integrating agriculture would enhance the elementary education curriculum..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

**Part II
Continued**



Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
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11. I am interested in teaching about agriculture because there are more careers in agriculture than any other industry in the US.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. I like to integrate agriculture into my instruction.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. I am interested in teaching about agriculture because of my past work experience in agriculture.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. I am interested in teaching about agriculture because of my experiences with youth development projects (4-H/FFA) in agriculture.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
15. Every elementary student should be taught agriculture because students should understand the connections between people, soil, and food.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
16. Every elementary student should have general knowledge about agriculture.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
17. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would be a waste of time.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
18. My students should understand where their food comes from.	1	2	3	4	5	6
19. I am interested in integrating agriculture into my classes so that I can learn new things.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
20. When I have the opportunity, I integrate agriculture into my classes even if I am not expected to teach agriculture.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
21. I am interested in learning how to integrate agriculture into my instruction.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
22. Agriculture is not relevant to my students.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

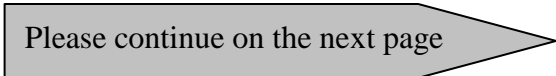


**Part II
Continued**



Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
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23. Agriculture can be easily integrated into the subject(s) that I teach.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
24. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would create student interest.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Learning about agriculture would be fun and exciting for my students.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
26. Agriculture is an outdated topic because we live in a post-agricultural economy.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
27. I do not use instructional resources provided by agricultural interest groups because they contain biased information.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
28. It is important to integrate agriculture because it would help students learn in my content area(s).....	1	2	3	4	5	6
29. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would provide students a more well-rounded education.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
30. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would help students achieve the Illinois Learning Standards.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
31. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would help my students develop their reading and language skills.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
32. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would help my students apply math concepts.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
33. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would help my students apply science concepts.....	1	2	3	4	5	6



**Part II
Continued**



	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
34. Learning about agriculture would engage my students to solve problems and think critically.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
35. Integrating agriculture into my instruction would make learning more experiential and hands-on.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
36. Agricultural knowledge would help my students make decisions they will face as consumers.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
37. Learning about agriculture would help my students connect to their local communities.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
38. Teaching students about agriculture would introduce my students to possible career opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
39. I am not prepared to integrate agriculture into my instruction..	1	2	3	4	5	6
40. Teaching about agriculture would take away time from what I am required to teaching.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
41. I would need to spend time learning about agriculture to feel comfortable teaching it to my students.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
42. I would need to learn new instructional methods and activities to teach agriculture in my classroom.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
43. I do not have the instructional resources to teach my students about agriculture.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
44. Teaching agriculture would shift my instruction from higher-order thinking to lower-order thinking.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

**Part II
Continued**



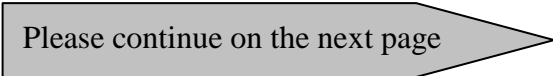
	Strongly Disagree	Moderately Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Slightly Agree	Moderately Agree	Strongly Agree
45. I am too busy to integrate agriculture into my classroom.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
46. There is no time to teach agriculture in the elementary curriculum.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
47. Integrating agriculture into my classroom would be fairly easy because I use thematic units in my instruction.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

Part III: Appraisal Inventory

This section is designed to help us gain a better understanding of what agricultural topics are taught in elementary classrooms.

Instructions: Please indicate the **frequency** that you teach each of the following topics to your students.

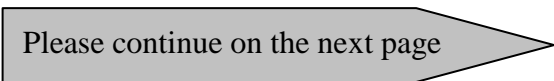
	Never	Once per year	Once per quarter	Once per month	Once per week
1. Natural resources and conservation.....	0	1	2	3	4
2. Cultural impacts of agriculture.....	0	1	2	3	4
3. Agricultural production and farming.....	0	1	2	3	4
4. Historical impacts of agriculture.....	0	1	2	3	4
5. Seed and plant growth.....	0	1	2	3	4
6. Food processing and distribution.....	0	1	2	3	4
7. Insects.....	0	1	2	3	4



**Part III
Continued**



	Never	Once per year	Once per quarter	Once per month	Once per week
8. Animal growth and development.....	0	1	2	3	4
9. Biotechnology.....	0	1	2	3	4
10. Nutrition and wellness.....	0	1	2	3	4
11. Horticulture and landscaping.....	0	1	2	3	4
12. Environment and ecology.....	0	1	2	3	4
13. Agricultural careers.....	0	1	2	3	4
14. Food and consumer choices.....	0	1	2	3	4
15. Agricultural technology and mechanics.....	0	1	2	3	4
16. Agribusiness and industry.....	0	1	2	3	4
17. Economics impacts of agriculture.....	0	1	2	3	4
18. Social impacts of agriculture.....	0	1	2	3	4
19. Food and family traditions.....	0	1	2	3	4
20. Environmental impacts of agriculture.....	0	1	2	3	4
21. Food and spiritual traditions.....	0	1	2	3	4
22. Food and social activities.....	0	1	2	3	4
23. The beauty of agriculture (harmony and balance of natural and spiritual worlds)...	0	1	2	3	4



Part IV: Background Information

This section is designed to give us some background information about yourself.

Personal Background

Questions



Your

Response



1. Are you female or male?.....

Female
 Male

2. How many years have you been teaching including this one?.....

Years

3. What grades do you teach? (Check all that apply).....

Pre-K
 K
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 Other (Please Specify)

4. What content areas do you teach? (Check all that apply).....

English
 Reading
 Math
 Social Science
 Science
 Health
 Art
 Music
 Special Education
 Other (Please Specify)

5. I currently teach a unit on farming.....

No
 Yes

Part IV
Continued
↓

Your
Response
↓

6. What is the highest educational degree that you have received?.....

Bachelor
 Master
 Doctor

7. In which educational classes, workshops, or in-service programs have you participated?.....

Food, Land, and People
 Project WILD
 Project WET
 Leopold Education Project

8. Have you participated in any other educational classes, workshops, or in-service programs that were related to agriculture, food, or the environment?

No
 Yes (Please List)

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. You are done!

*Thank
You!*

Please fold and insert into the return envelope



Please Return by April 21, 2003
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