

Suggested Farm Themed Children's Literature

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A Farmer's Alphabet by Mary Azarian - wood cuts that should be framed; each letter of the alphabet is a farm-associated word (play a game of thinking of other farm words that Mary didn't use...make your own farm alphabet book!)

Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert - All Lois Ehlert books are wonderful. Great book for introducing garden to young folks

Jack's Garden by Henry Cole - a cumulative text (similar to 12 Days of Christmas, building as you go, and explains how a garden works and the animals involved)

Jody's Beans by Malachy Doyle - through spring, summer and fall, Jody and her granda watch her scarlet runner beans grow; a sweet book

This Year's Garden by Cynthia Rylant (anything by Rylant is wonderful, can't go wrong) - tells the year in the garden with typical Rylant-poetic lyricism; good for rereading at different times of the year

Two Old Potatoes and Me by John Coy - a wonderful new book that tells the story of growing potatoes, with a recipe for mashed potatoes at the end. Also a subtle comment on divorce/separation to give comfort to children who might be experiencing that themselves

All the Places to Love by Patricia MacLachlen - building an appreciation of place, sense of place

The Scarecrow by Cynthia Rylant - beautiful illustrations, peaceful text, great for choral reading and writer's workshop

Scarlette Beane by Karen Wallace - a fantastic tale of growing vegetables; seeing the miracles of the garden; children will hoot with pleasure

A Harvest of Color - Growing a Vegetable Garden by Melanie Eclare - wonderful photographs coupled with growing tips from kids

A is for Appalachia! - The Alphabet Book of Appalachian Heritage by Linda Pack - Appalachia, the people, the geographic region, the culture

Pumpkin Circle - The Story of a Garden by George Levenson - a first rate intro to the growth cycle coupled with outstanding photos and rhythmic text that provide a wealth of information! Winner of numerous awards.

Insectlopedia by Douglas Florian - children just shriek with laughter and amazement at his clever rhymes (great book for a really good read aloud)

Ideas for the Youngest Learner

Check off the things you see on your trip to the farm.

























Kindergarten

Social Studies

- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.
- Know that individuals choose jobs that impact their lives, families, and communities.
- Describe personal connections to place, especially place as associated with immediate surroundings.

Language Arts

- Expand oral language through vocabulary instruction and experiences.
- Relate background knowledge to make meaning from text.
- Participate in teacher-led experience stories.
- Participate in the creation of experience stories.
- Connect life experiences to a story or poem.
- Construct graphic organizers (e.g., webs, charts, and diagrams) in a small or large group to organize information.
- Write to entertain and inform (e.g., experience stories, pictures, and shared writing).
- Participate in shared writing about social studies, science, the arts, and various classroom activities.

Math

- Count how many objects are in a set (1-20).
- Sort objects by color, size, shape, and kind.
- Identify patterns in the environment, in arrangements of objects, or in pictures.
- Recognize circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles in the environment and as faces of three-dimensional objects.
- Recognize basic properties of and similarities and differences between simple geometric figures (e.g., number of sides, corners).
- Reproduce and create circles, squares, rectangles, and triangles.
- Reproduce and create structures using three-dimensional shapes.
- Recognize and show terms of relative position and direction in a variety of situations (e.g., over, under, forward, backward, between, right, and left).

Science

- Know that different organisms tend to be found in different environments.
- Classify objects as natural or manmade.

First Grade

Social Studies

- Describe the concept of human features as in cities, buildings, farms, roads, and railroads.
- Explain how land is used for different tasks in the local area.
- Define natural resources and explain how people are dependent on them.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Expand oral language through vocabulary instruction and experiences.
- Retell stories in their own words using sequencing words (e.g., first, next, and last).
- Participate in discussions about text and relate to personal experiences.
- Create graphic organizers (e.g., charts, lists).
- Predict and adjust outcomes during read-alouds.
- Recall three to four-step sequence of events.
- Create individual and classroom books.
- Incorporate illustrations and photographs.
- Write simple stories.
- Write short accounts of personal experiences.
- Summarize concepts presented in science (e.g., illustration, dictating sentences, or composing simple sentences).

Math

- Sort objects by two of the following attributes: color, size, shape, and kind.
- Describe how objects in a group are alike and how they are different.
- Identify and describe growing patterns found in literature, in the environment, in physical arrangements, and in pictures.
- Recognize names, basic properties of, and similarities and differences between simple geometric figures (e.g., number of sides, corners).
- Predict and describe the results of combining and taking apart two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Recognize and show terms of relative position and direction in a variety of situations (e.g., over, under, forward, backward, between, right, and left).
- Create a figure made up of shapes from memory.

Science

- Recognize the basic needs of living things (e.g., food, water, sunlight, and air).
- Observe and note differences among plants and animals of the same kind.
- Identify ways that earth resources benefit man.

Second Grade

Social Studies

- Describe how society depends upon workers with specialized jobs and the ways in which they contribute to the production and exchange of goods and services.
- Analyze how individuals and populations depend upon land resources.
- Describe the importance of physical geographic features on defining communities.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Narrate a personal story.
- Read and explain own writings.
- Relate selection to personal experience.
- Create graphic organizers (e.g., KWL, webs, lists, story maps, and charts).
- Connect life experience to information and events in texts.
- Restate story events in order to clarify and organize ideas.
- Recall the sequence of events in a story.
- Recognize cause and effect.

Math

- Identify, build, draw, and compare two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Describe characteristics and parts of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Pose questions and gather data to answer the questions.
- Interpret and solve problems with tables, bar graphs, and pictographs.
- Predict outcomes of events based on data gathered and displayed.
- Interpret and solve open sentences that involve addition or subtraction.

Science

- Compare how plants and animals satisfy their basic requirements for life.
- Match offspring with their parents.
- Classify an organism according to the environment in which it can best survive.

Third Grade

Social Studies

- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.
- Using a picture, differentiate the difference between a producer and a consumer.
- Recognize that the world has different agricultural and industrial regions.
- Interpret a map showing agricultural and industrial areas.

Language Arts

- Summarize orally what has been learned or accomplished after completing an activity or assignment.
- Give oral presentations about experiences or interests, using eye contact, proper pacing, adequate volume, and clear
- Participate in activities to build background knowledge to make meaning from text.
- Summarize concepts presented in science (e.g., illustrations, sentences, paragraphs, and reports) and social studies (e.g., illustrations, sentences, paragraphs, and reports).
- Summarize a story.
- Complete a simple graphic organizer (i.e., charts, graphs, and diagrams) arranging information to be used in a writing sample.
- Rearrange events in sequential order.
- Write a variety of poems, a friendly letter, and in a journal.

Math

- Extend a growing pattern, involving objects, shapes, or numbers.
- Identify, build, draw, and compare two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Describe characteristics and parts of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Identify shapes that have line symmetry.
- Investigate and predict the results of combining and taking apart two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.

Science

- Identify the function of specific plant and animal parts.
- Distinguish between living and nonliving things in an illustration.
- Select the plants and animals found in a specific environment.
- Explain how animals depend on plants to meet their need for energy.
- Identify the basic needs of plants and animals.

Fourth Grade

Social Studies

- Interpret a chart of major agricultural produce in Tennessee (i.e., cotton, tobacco, soy beans, rice, corn, cattle, wheat, swine, and sheep).
- Evaluate the effects of supply and demand on business, industry, and agriculture, including the plantation system, in Tennessee and various regions.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Relate text to personal and historical experiences, current events, as well as previously read print and nonprint media.
- Interpret information using a chart, map, or timeline
- Compare and contrast events and characters using evidence cited from print and nonprint text(s).
- Compare and contrast different versions/representations of the same story/events that reflect different cultures.
- Organize prior knowledge using a variety of strategies (e.g., webbing, mapping, brainstorming, and listing).
- Use print and nonprint materials along with prior knowledge to provide background for writing.
- Complete a graphic organizer (e.g., listing, clustering, story maps, and webs) to group ideas for writing.
- Write in response to a standard prompt and/or select a prompt from two choices.

Math

- Identify, build, draw, and compare two- and three-dimensional geometric figures (e.g. rectangle, square, triangle, circle, cube, cylinder, sphere, and cone).
- Name two-dimensional geometric figures (e.g., rectangle, square, triangle, circle, cube, cylinder, sphere, and cone).
- Name three-dimensional geometric figures (e.g., rectangle, square, triangle, circle, cube, cylinder, sphere, and cone).
- Recognize geometric figures that are the same size and shape.
- Identify the line of symmetry in a two-dimensional design or shape.
- Draw lines of symmetry in two-dimensional designs and shape.
- Represent and analyze patterns and relationships using words, tables, and graphs.

Science

- Select plants and animals found in a specific environment
- Recognize how plants and animals found in a specific environment
- Compare the traits of offspring with those of parent
- Recognize the relationship between reproduction and the survival of a species.

Fifth Grade

Social Studies

- Explain how people historically and presently earn their living in different regions of the United States and Tennessee.
- Analyze how developments in transportation communication influenced economic activities in Tennessee.
- Explain how rural areas and urban centers changed as a result of immigration and migration.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Retrieve, organize, and represent information (e.g., charts, maps, graphs, forms, timelines, and outlines).
- Retell a story from a different point of view.
- Recognize that a story is told from the first person point of view.
- Compose narratives (e.g., to entertain, inform, and report).
- Write frequently in the narrative mode.
- Write well-developed, organized, and coherent essays in response to narrative prompts.
- Write a descriptive paragraph to create a visual image.
- Produce a variety of creative works utilizing knowledge from the content areas (e.g., journals, letters to the editor, and historical fiction).
- Write in expository mode

Math

- Identify, compare, and analyze attributes of two- and three-dimensional shapes.
- Identify two- or three-dimensional shapes given defining attributes.
- Develop and use mathematical language to describe characteristics and properties of geometric figures.
- Identify and draw points, lines, line segments, rays, and angles.
- Identify points, lines, and rays.
- Describe the relationships between lines and the characteristics of angles (e.g., parallel, perpendicular, intersecting, right, acute, and obtuse).
- Compare properties of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Investigate and describe the results of subdividing and combining two-dimensional geometric figures.
- Recognize congruent geometric figures.
- Identify and draw lines of symmetry for two-dimensional geometric figure

Science

- Examine and relate how plants and animals interact with each other and their environment.
- Select plants and animals found in a specific environment.
- Provide evidence and give examples of environmental changes caused by living things.
- Explain that animals must obtain food and use food for energy.
- Classify specific kinds of relationships among plants and animals within an ecosystem.

Sixth Grade

Social Studies

- Identify how communities reflect the cultural background of their inhabitants.
- Compare how cultures differ in their use of similar environments and resources.
- Analyze how human migration and cultural activities influence the character of a place.
- Define various types of economies and their methods of production and consumption.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Complete a graphic organizer (i.e., clustering, listing, mapping, and webbing) with information from notes for a writing selection.
- Develop writing by using appropriate organizational strategies, including outlining and other graphic organizers to show evidence of a prewriting plan.
- Select and limit a writing topic.
- Write friendly and business letters.
- Write diaries and journals in the narrative mode.

Math

- Identify, compare, and analyze attributes of two- and three-dimensional shapes.
- Identify two- or three-dimensional shapes given defining attributes.
- Develop and use mathematical language to describe characteristics and properties of geometric figures.
- Identify and draw points, lines, line segments, rays, and angles.
- Identify points, lines, and rays.
- Describe the relationships between lines and the characteristics of angles (e.g., parallel, perpendicular, intersecting, right, acute, and obtuse).
- Compare properties of two- and three-dimensional geometric figures.
- Investigate and describe the results of subdividing and combining two-dimensional geometric figures.
- Recognize congruent geometric figures.
- Identify and draw lines of symmetry for two-dimensional geometric figures.
- Identify lines of symmetry for two-dimensional geometric figures.

Science

- Recognize how animals and plants are interdependent.
- Explain how the relationship between the form and function of an organism is associated with survival in a given environment.
- Classify plants and animals according to their features.
- Determine what plants need to make food.
- Identify photosynthesis as the food making process in plants.
- Diagram and explain how oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged between living things and their environment.

Seventh Grade

Social Studies

- Use the basic elements of maps and mapping.
- Explain how people living in the same region maintain different ways of life.
- Identify how communities locally, regionally, and globally reflect the cultural background of their inhabitants.
- Compare how cultures differ in their use of similar environments and resources.
- List the major resources and industrial and agricultural products, locally, regionally, and globally.
- Select the major resources, industrial, and agricultural products from the three grand divisions from a map of Tennessee.
- Utilize community resources such as field trips, guest speakers, and museums for historical awareness.

Language Arts

- Indicate the sequence of events.
- Generate, focus, and organize ideas.
- Use print and nonprint materials, along with prior and content area knowledge, to provide background for writing.
- Develop writing by using appropriate organization strategies, including outlining and other graphic organizers, to produce a prewriting plan.
- Select, limit, and refine a topic.
- Complete a graphic organizer (e.g., clustering, listing, mapping, and webbing) with information from notes on a writing selection.
- Identify the purpose for writing (e.g., to inform, to describe, to explain, to persuade).

Math

- Collect data using observations, surveys, and experiments.
- Understand how data-collection methods could affect the results.
- Construct tables, pictographs, line graphs, and bar graphs.
- Interpret simple charts, tables, pictographs, line graphs, and bar graphs.
- Demonstrate understanding of the concepts of length, perimeter, area, weight, capacity, volume, time, and angle measure.
- Estimate using standard units of measure.
- Select appropriate standard units to measure length, perimeter, area, capacity, volume, weight, time, temperature, and angles.

Science

- Distinguish between sexual and asexual methods of reproduction.
- Recognize that genetic information is passed from parent to offspring during reproduction.
- Recognize advantages and disadvantages of sexual and asexual reproduction.
- Identify photosynthesis as the food making process in plants.
- Diagram and explain how oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged between living things and their environment.