

AGRICULTURE IN MONTANA SCHOOLS

Teach or Write Contest (formerly Essay Contest)

WHO: Grade 7-11 Students

WHAT: Write an essay or teach a class to win a three day stay on the campus of Montana State University –Bozeman in June learning about careers in agri-science and related fields. There will be many hands-on opportunities, field trips and interaction with students from across the state.

WHY: Because agriculture is important to Montana, our nation and the world and there are many career choices that relate to this industry, not just farming and ranching (but also including those).

HOW: The choice is yours! The student can write a 200-500 word essay OR the student may choose to teach a short (10-15 minutes) lesson to an elementary class on the designated topic and write a short synopsis of what they did. Rules are as follows. The topic for the 2011 contest is:

Wild Horses

Rules for Essays:

1. Essays shall be at least 200 words but no more than 500 words.
2. The final page must include a list of information sources as this is considered a research project. Wikipedia will not be accepted as a source, but an interview with an authority would be.
3. Essays will be judged on grammar, information included, originality of thought, neatness, and clarity of expression.
4. Essay winners from previous years who attended the workshop are not eligible to win again; however, if a winner was unable to attend the workshop, they may enter to try to win again.
5. All essays become the property of AMS and may be reproduced. AMS assumes no responsibility for any of the opinions expressed in any essay.

Rules for Teach-a Lesson:

1. Present a short (10-15 minutes) lesson to an elementary class on the topic listed above. Sources of information may include the AMS teaching manuals.
2. Write a summary of your lesson answering the following questions:
 - A. Describe what you did in teaching your lesson (what you taught, how you did it -- could be something hands- on -- class size, etc).
 - B. Tell what you learned from doing this.
 - C. List any sources of information that you used (at least two are required).
 - D. Have the classroom teacher sign and date that you presented it to the class
3. Lesson will be judged on the summary sheet turned in, originality of the idea selected, neatness of the report, and grammar.

A COVER PAGE FOR BOTH THE ESSAY AND THE TEACH-A-LESSON MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

*****STUDENT'S NAME, AGE, GRADE AND SIGNATURE**

*****NAME OF SCHOOL, SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER, TEACHER'S NAME AND THE COUNTY NAME**

Entries must be postmarked by February 25, 2012 and mailed to:

Carol Sparks

1515 Plevna Rd S

Plevna, MT 59344

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