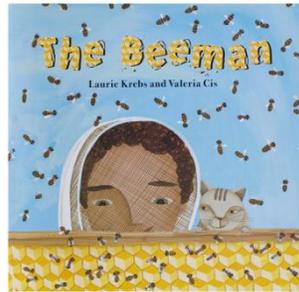


Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Week

September 29-October 3, 2014



The State Department of Education wants to hear about the delicious, locally grown items you are serving in your cafeterias. In addition to highlighting items on your menu, consider the following suggestion to help you celebrate the great things you do and reach out to make the classroom to cafeteria connection.

1. The designated book for the 2014 Ag Literacy Campaign is **The Beeman**. Sponsored by the Connecticut Agriculture Education Foundation, it targets grades 2-4. Along with the book, a lesson plan and corresponding activities are provided. Connect with one or more 2-4th grade classrooms and find a teacher interested in having the book read in their class. If you are one of the lucky districts that have a Regional Ag Ed Program, contact the director to see if one of their students can volunteer to read the book. Your high school might also have a list of students willing to volunteer their time to meet community service requirements. You or one of your staff can be the volunteer reader too!
2. Contact me and I will get you the Volunteer Reader Form through the CT Coordinator for Ag in the Classroom. A copy of the book and corresponding activities will be sent to you.
3. Use one of the Team Nutrition recipes that have honey as well as vegetables that could be obtained locally. Crediting information is included with the recipes. Serve on the same day the book is being read in the classroom. The link to the cookbook is http://healthymeals.nal.usda.gov/hsmrs/Vermont/EDU-New_School_Cuisine_Cookbook.pdf. The recipes are Magenta Root Slaw, Gingered Cabbage Slaw, and Sweet Potato & Black Bean Salad.
4. To find where you can get local honey, go to the **CT Dept. of Agriculture's** site: <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=3260&q=399066>
5. Students will be excited to try a recipe with honey, connecting the story with what's being served in the cafeteria that day. Bet you get a lot of kids to try it!
6. Invite me to your event! I am the Farm to School representative for the State Department of Education and I would love to see what great things are going on in your district- Monica Pacheco, monica.pacheco@ct.gov

