

Lesson Plan: Thank A Farmer Day

Grade Level: 2-4

Subject: Social Studies / Science / Agriculture

Duration: 1 hour

Theme: Farmer Appreciation (**Grain Farms:** Focus on crops like wheat, corn, oats, and barley)



Objectives:

- Students will learn about the importance of farmers and agriculture.
- Students will identify key crops: wheat, corn, oats, and barley.
- Students will express gratitude to farmers through creative projects.

Materials Needed:

- Large poster board or chart paper
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Craft supplies (construction paper, scissors, glue)
- Photos or illustrations of wheat, grains
- Access to a computer/tablet for research (if applicable)
- "Thank You" cards or paper for writing messages

Preparation:

1. Gather images and information about crops like wheat, corn, oats, and barley.
 2. Prepare a short presentation (PowerPoint or poster) about each crop, including its uses and significance in our daily lives.
 3. Set up craft supplies and "Thank You" cards at workstations.
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Procedure:

Introduction (10 minutes)

1. **Discussion:** Begin with a discussion about where food comes from. Ask students:
 - Who grows the food we eat?
 - What do they grow?
 - Why are farmers important?
2. **Presentation:** Share a brief overview of crops like wheat, corn, oats, and barley, highlighting their importance and uses in everyday products

Activity (35 minutes)

1. **Group Research (15 minutes):**
 - Divide students into small groups and assign each group one of the crops (wheat, corn, oats, and barley).
 - Provide time for each group to research their assigned crop using classroom resources or online tools, focusing on:
 - Where it is grown
 - How it is harvested
 - Products made from it
 - Fun facts
2. **Creative Project (20 minutes):**
 - Each group will create a poster or a presentation that includes:
 - Name of the crop
 - Interesting facts
 - Drawings or cut-out images
 - A list of products made from that crop
 - Groups will also design a "Thank You" message to farmers, which they can incorporate into their poster, or send/deliver.

Write A Thank You Letter/Email

Format for a Letter:

- Date: Write the date at the top.
- Greeting: Start with "Dear [Farmer's Name]," or "Dear [Farm Name] Team,".
- Body: Include:
 - An introduction: Who you are (e.g., "My name is [Your Name] and I am a student at [Your School].")
 - Appreciation: Thank the farmer for their hard work and the specific food they grow (e.g., "Thank you for growing delicious wheat that is in my bread!")
 - Personal connection: Mention how their products impact your life (e.g., "I love visiting the local farmers' market to buy fresh produce.").
- 2. Closing: Sign off with "Sincerely," or "Thank you again," followed by your name.

Format for an Email:

1. Subject Line: Use a clear subject, like "Thank You for Your Hard Work!"
2. Greeting: Start with "Dear [Farmer's Name]," or "Hello [Farm Name] Team,".
3. Body: Follow the same structure as the letter.
4. Closing: End with a friendly sign-off, your name, and optionally, your school.

Finding Farmers' Contact Information

1. Local Farmers' Markets: Visit farmers' markets in your area. Farmers often have booths with their contact information.
2. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA): Research local CSAs. These programs often have websites listing participating farmers.
3. Online Directories: Use resources like:
 - LocalHarvest.org: Find farms and farmers' markets near you.
 - State agricultural websites: Many states list local farms.
4. Social Media: Search for local farmers on platforms like Facebook or Instagram. Many farms promote their products and contact info online.
5. School Resources: Ask your teacher or school librarian for help in locating local farmers.

Step 4: Delivering Your Thank You Letters/Emails

- In-Person Delivery: If possible, visit local farms to hand-deliver your letters. Bring along a parent or guardian for safety.
- Mailing Letters: If you have the farmer's mailing address, place your letter in an envelope, address it, and use a stamp.
- Sending Emails: Simply click "send" once you've finished your email!

Assessment:

- Participation in group research and poster creation.
 - Quality and creativity of the poster/presentation.
 - Engagement during discussions and presentations.
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Extension Activities:

- Organize a field trip to a local farm or a virtual tour of a grain processing facility.
 - Invite a local farmer to speak about their work and answer questions.
 - Create a "Thank You" video montage to share with local farming communities.
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This lesson plan encourages students to appreciate the hard work of farmers and understand the role of agriculture in their lives. It also fosters teamwork, research skills, and creativity!

