

ND Ag in the Classroom Mini-Grant Program
PO Box 6022
Bismarck, ND 58506-6022

Press Release (for immediate release)
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Contact: Beth Bakke Stenehjem, Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation at 701-224-8390
701-471-5004 (cell) Email Address: bethbakke@gcentral.com

Ag in the Classroom Mini-Grants Available

Bismarck – Approximately \$9000 is being offered as mini-grants to projects involving agriculture projects, units and lessons used for school-aged children by the Ag in the Classroom Council. This is the fourth year for the program which has provided \$20,000 worth of support to classrooms, 4-H groups, libraries, teachers, and individuals in the past. The mini grants will fund hands-on activities that will develop and enrich understanding of agriculture as the source of food and/or fiber in our society. Individuals or groups such as teachers, 4-H leaders, commodity groups, and others interested in teaching our young people about the importance of agriculture in North Dakota are welcome to apply.

Last year funds were granted to programs such as the Southeast Region Career and Technical Center for development of a mobile meats lab, the Pembina County Weed Board for curriculum to help students learn about noxious and invasive weeds, the St. John School for materials in plant growth and germination experiments, and McHenry County Extension Service for materials for a Farm Safety Day. For a complete list of 2006 grantees or for an application, go to www.ndaginclassroom.org/minigrant.htm.

Grant funds can be used for supplies, curriculum, printing, transportation expenses, guest speakers, materials, food, etc.

For a copy of the rules and an application, please call Beth at 701-224-8390 or go to www.ndaginclassroom.org. The deadline for applying is **September 7, 2007**, with funds being awarded by **September 17, 2007**.

The ND Ag in the Classroom's mission is to cultivate an understanding of the interrelationship of agriculture, the environment, and people by integrating agriculture into K-12 education.

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Beth Bakke Stenehjem, Executive Director of the ND FFA Foundation