Activities to Do with your Pre-K through 4th Grader to Create More Interest in Agriculture Careers

* Attend your local county fair… <https://www.pafairs.org/>
* 4-H youth development programs are available through local 4-H clubs, 4-H camps, and 4-H after school programs. In most states, kids can join 4-H if they're between the ages of 8 and 18; some states offer programs for younger children. Use the locator to find your local 4-H club and learn how to enroll in a 4-H program… <https://4-h.org/about/what-is-4-h/>
* Check out the activities for younger children at My American Farm…<http://www.myamericanfarm.org/family_fun>. Activities, Tips for Health Families, and Recipes.
* Get more specific about ag careers by ordering Career Ag Magazine… <https://www.dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau/DMSStore/Product/ProductDetail/26008>. This is a nonfiction text magazine style reader for grades 3-5 to use in exploring ag careers.
* See the array of ag-related reading materials for younger readers… <https://www.dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau/DMSStore/Product/Products>.
* There are additional free ag-related materials from the American Farm Bureau… <https://www.dmsfulfillment.com/FarmBureau/DMSStore/Product/Products>.
* Get kids more involved in ag science and careers through projects from the Ag Classroom Store… <https://agclassroomstore.com/>
* Agriculture Literacy Curriculum Matrix provides Source Search for children in grades 3-5… <https://www.agclassroom.org/iowa/matrix/lessonplan.cfm?lpid=5>. Provided by the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation.
* Talk to your school about [Farm to School](http://www.farmtoschool.org/get-started" \o "Farm to School" \t "_blank), an organization that connects schools with resources and educational materials about food and agriculture.
* Join or start a [4-H Club](http://www.4-h.org/get-involved/find-4-h-clubs-camps-programs/" \o "4-H Club" \t "_blank). 4-H partners with 110 universities to provide mentoring and help you build a foundation of leadership and skills for success in your future career. The four Hs stand for four values members work on through fun and engaging programs: Head (thinking, managing), Heart (relating, caring), Hands (giving, working), and Health (being, living).
* Start a school garden. Learn by doing while growing healthy food.

* [Practice conservation](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/?ss=16&navtype=BROWSEBYSUBJECT&cid=nrcs143_023574&navid=220120000000000&pnavid=220000000000000&position=Not%20Yet%20Determined.Html&ttype=detail&pname=B" \o "Practice conservation" \t "_blank). Conservation of our natural resources is essential to healthy, sustainable agriculture. Whether you live in a city or a rural area, there are everyday things you can do to help increase food and shelter for birds and other wildlife, control soil erosion, reduce sediment in waterways, conserve water and improve water quality, inspire a stewardship ethic, and beautify the landscape.
* One of the greatest needs in agriculture today is to make sure there are enough bees, butterflies, bats, and other pollinators to continue to grow our crops. [Learn how you—and your school—can support pollinators](http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/" \o "Learn how you—and your school—can support pollinators" \t "_blank).
* Sign up for information from the Youth and Agriculture program at the USDA… <https://www.usda.gov/youth>
* Find a huge variety of career and other ag-related curriculum and materials at Teachers Pay Teachers… <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Browse/Search:agriculture%20careers>

For more information, contact the PA Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence, 2301 N. Cameron St., Room 303, Harrisburg, PA 17110.