

Making a Difference

2016 Haskell County Youth ANR In-depth Summary

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Relevance

In 2015, \$133.1 billion worth of American agricultural products were exported around the world. The United States sells more food and fiber to world markets than we import. 2.2 million farms dot America's rural landscape. About 97% of U.S farms are operated by families-individuals, family partnerships or family corporations. Therefore, the relevance is that there is a need to educate youth and stimulate interest to create future leaders for the agriculture industry.

Response

The response was to create an Ag in the Classroom program for all fourth grade youth of Haskell County. The Haskell County Farm Bureau board as well as Ag science teachers and the County Extension Agent held a planning meeting to discuss topics to address for the students. The committee decided educational stations would be used to rotate students through various educational demonstrations and discussions. Senior 4-H and FFA members would be used to present the information to the fourth grade students of Haskell County. Five demonstrations and 3 educational stations were used. The stations consisted of a mobile learning barn that had various agricultural facts and statistics. A miniature cotton gin showed how cotton seed and lint are separated. A livestock branding demonstration was used to discuss the importance of livestock identification. A demonstration on proper use of medications and methods of using needles for injection was presented. Tractors and equipment were displayed and discussed on their various uses in agriculture. Ag technology was discussed and a drone was demonstrated as to how this technology could be used for farming and ranching. Other rotations discussed the important role agriculture plays in all of our lives as well as how youth could get involved in agriculture through FFA and 4-H.

- 5 demonstrations and 3 educational presentations were presented (42 Youth)
- Senior 4-H and FFA members were used as instructors and group leaders (23 Youth)

Results

A retrospective post evaluation was used to evaluate the event. Students were given the evaluation through their home room teachers. 42 students were evaluated. The below table shows the percent increase in knowledge gained.

VALUE

Science of Agriculture



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension "Science of Agriculture" programs teach youth about the role agriculture plays in the world and in their lives. Through their participation in these programs, youth become better educated voters and consumers.

Understanding of..	Before Program %	After program %
<i>Mobile learning barn</i>	7.3%	87.8%
<i>Ginning cotton</i>	23.8%	83.3%
<i>How to get involved in 4-H and FFA</i>	21.4%	61.9%
<i>Branding cattle</i>	26.2%	83.3%
<i>Beef cattle health and proper use of medications</i>	14.6%	85.4%
<i>Tractors and farm equipment uses</i>	56.1%	87.8%
<i>Ag technology and drones</i>	23.8%	81.0%
<i>Importance of agriculture</i>	46.3%	78.0%

Acknowledgements

Haskell County Farm Bureau Board

Mrs. Vickie Bredthauer – Haskell ISD Fourth Grade Teacher

Mrs. Jacy West – Haskell ISD Fourth Grade Teacher

Mrs. Wendi Parks – Haskell ISD Fourth Grade Teacher

Mr. Bill Alcorn – Haskell ISD Superintendent

Mr. Kenny Cockrell – Haskell Ag Science teacher

Ms. Missy Hodgins – Haskell Ag Science teacher

Ms. Alexia Wright – Paint Creek Ag Science teacher

4-H and FFA Senior members

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE
Providing Solutions