

NAME of School NAME of Contact Address Town, AK 99999

Grade
<a href="Email">Email</a>
Phone Number

# **Student Farm Tour**

I am interested in organizing a farm tour to the Bakker's U-Pick farm this fall. I think this would be a great opportunity for children to learn how things grow and to harvest their own vegetables. It is anticipated that through this experience they will learn how wonderful fresh vegetables taste. We are hoping this will encourage their parents to purchase locally grown fresh produce. Additionally, it is anticipated that they will be interested in growing their own food, and when they see produce in the grocery store they will understand more about agriculture and where their food comes from. I feel there is no substitute for "learn by doing," and hands-on experience on the farm will help them remember how food is grown.

## Curriculum

- First I will prepare a survey questioning the students on what specialty crops grow in Alaska.
- I will prepare a picture and word match up of Alaska Grown specialty crops for students to complete prior to attending the farm tour/hands on picking experience.
- Prior to the students picking their own produce, we will choose five vegetables
  and we will discuss how they grow in Alaska, how they are harvested and
  different ways they can be prepared for a meal.
- After the farm tour, students will complete a post-assessment asking the students
  what specialty crops grow in Alaska and it will also ask how at least five crops
  grow and are harvested.
- I will be teaming up with Mrs. Achenbach. My goal is to fill up a bus with at approximately 45 students. She will be applying for a grant separately.

### **Increase awareness of Alaska Grown Specialty Crops:**

I will prepare the students prior to the farm tour, by having the word match up of Alaska Grown specialty crops. When we go to Bakker's, they will be given a list of specialty crops that are grown on their farm, helping the students increase their awareness of Alaska Grown specialty crops. Also, when they take their own baggies of produce home, they will be reminded of specialty crops that grow in Alaska, and also have the chance to share that with their parents, which will hopefully increase the parent's awareness as well.

## # of Students Reached

I have a class of 22 this coming year, and another third grade teacher (Mrs. Achenbach) in my school has a class of 21. She has great interest in including agriculture in her curriculum, and we have both participated in AITC in past years, and we are interested in taking what we have learned there sharing it with the students. These students will be directly reached, as we have day to day contact with them.

#### Professional Collaborator

In 2008, I participated in the Agriculture In The Classroom Teacher Institute from Victoria Naegele. It was informative and I learned much that I could pass on to my students. I took educational tools home to reach the students and increase their awareness of Alaska agriculture. She has a CD of games and ways to teach the students agriculture, which I have utilized in the past. Victoria reviewed the matching exercise that I prepared, and provided input on it. She suggested the five crops that we will be doing a close review on.

#### Surveys

I will conduct two surveys, one at the beginning of the project and one at the end, to determine if the curriculum described increased students' awareness of Alaska Grown specialty crops, and educated them on the subject of agriculture.

## Budget

The funds will be used to pay for the bus to the farm. The funds will also help students to buy produce to bring home. The grant will fund \$5/ student for purchasing produce.

## **Proposal Requirements**

I understand the requirements of this project and if awarded this scholarship I will adhere to them.

Thank you for considering my proposal. I am excited about the prospect of educating my students on agriculture, and increasing their awareness of Alaska Grown specialty crops.

ltem	Cost	Explanation
Bus	\$ 390.00	Cost of fuel and driver for trip
Produce	\$ 110.0	Each of the 22 students will receive \$5 to purchase specialty crops at the farm.
Total	\$ 500.00	

## PRE-SURVEY SAMPLE

1. Circle the products listed below that are Alaska Grown specialty crops?

LETTUCE BANANAS BROCOLLI GRAPES POTATOES CHEESE

2. Where can you and your parents buy Alaska Grown specialty crops?

At a farm At the grocery store In a restaurant At the movie theater

3. Have you ever visited a farm in Alaska before? Yes No