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## **Students Celebrate Alaska Agriculture Day**

(Palmer, AK) – More than 400 students at Swanson Elementary School in Palmer and 260 students in the Fairbanks region are learning about Alaska agriculture this week as part of Alaska Agriculture Day.

Alaskan farmers and ranchers provide food, fiber, flowers and other products instrumental to the livelihood of all Alaskans. May is the month that farmers are preparing seed starts and fields for production. Some farmers markets will open this weekend with early greens, plant starts, and a variety of nursery and greenhouse products.

Division of Agriculture staff visited schools on Tuesday, May 1, the official date of Agriculture Day. Division staff made carrot and radish seed tape – a convenient method for planting small seeds – with students. They also taught students when to plant and harvest different products, which parts of a plant are edible, and why vegetables are healthy.

The Division of Agriculture encourages Alaskans to celebrate Alaska agriculture by sourcing Alaska Grown products today and all season long. For more information on how to get involved with Alaska Agriculture Day, visit the Alaska Agriculture in the Classroom web site at [www.akaitc.org](http://www.akaitc.org).

The following photos from Tuesday's Agriculture Day celebration have been pre-approved for use by media.



Farm to School Program Coordinator Johanna Herron makes seed tape at Fairbanks Montessori School.



Jazlyn Herron, 3, and Kaia Sharpton, 4, make carrot seed tape at Fairbanks Montessori School.

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