

Kids Korner

Fourth Graders Get Ag Day Lesson

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FAWN GROVE (York County)

— "How many of you like to eat?" was a question recently asked the fourth graders at the Fawn Grove Elementary School.

Every student shot a hand up in the air. Most of the hands went up again when the question was asked how many of the students and their families grew food in gardens at home. But only a few hands waved in the air when visiting speaker Gail McPherson asked how many lived on farms where

people raised food for others as their way of making a living.

Fawn Grove Elementary School is located in a rural community, but only a few of the 56 children in the two fourth-grade classes live on farms. So Mrs. Hash and Ms. Whitaker, the fourth-grade teachers, invited a farmer, Gail McPherson, to visit with their class during National Agriculture Week.

Gail McPherson and her husband and family raise several hundred acres of orchard and grain crops just a few miles from



Jimi Nomikos reads a radio-spot announcement about agriculture to his fourth-grade classmates at Fawn Grove Elementary School. Listening also are his teacher, Mrs. Hash, at right, and farmer Gail McPherson.



Fourth-graders at Fawn Grove Elementary School will learn more about agriculture with "The Farming Game," given by Gail McPherson when she visited their classes for National Agriculture Week.

the school. They also operate a land improvement business for building soil conservation improvement practices, like hill-side terraces and ponds.

Several of the fourth-grade students dressed up with hats Gail McPherson brought along to show some of the many different kinds of jobs a farmer might do. Included in her hat show were the traditional baseball-style "farm cap," a beekeepers hat with net to protect against stings to the face, a hard-hat with ear protection against noise, a floppy straw hat that could protect against the sun while harvesting berries and a hat and plastic gloves to be used for safety when working with crop-protection materials.

Students also talked with Gail McPherson about how wooded areas and fencerows on farms supply cover and homes for many types of wildlife. They passed through the classroom a series of large, colored pictures showing soil conservation methods which help keep the water clean and prevent erosion.

Mrs. McPherson told the students about some different uses for farm crops, like newspaper ink made from soybeans. She explained another interesting product, made from corn, which is used to melt ice on highways during the winter and is more friendly to the environment than salt products which have been used in the past. The classes also talked about the many careers that are related to

agriculture.

So that the fourth-grade classes can continue to learn about agriculture, Gail McPherson gave them the gift of "The Farming Game." This game is similar to monopoly, and players can farm, buy and sell land, crops and machinery, take chances on the weather and either be profitable or lose money, depending on their skill and the luck of the game.

Attention, Kids

Kids, surprise your mother, father, grandma or grandpa, by sending us a little write up about them. If you have a photo, please include one with the story. If you prefer to draw a picture, you may

include that also.

Send your letters, stories, photos, and pictures to Lou Ann Good, Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522.

Recycle

RECYCLING CONNECTIONS

Draw lines connecting the pictures of recyclables on the left with the items on the right which are things they can be made into. For Example: The line drawn in below shows that old papers can be made into boxes.

Hint: Each of the left side recyclables may have more than one line.



Fruit and grain grower Gail McPherson talks with fourth-graders at Fawn Grove Elementary School about modern farming methods.



Fawn Grove fourth-graders donned hats to learn about the many jobs a farmer must be able to do.