

# **Kids Growing With Grains**

The goal of this program is to provide 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Washington County with a hands-on learning experience at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center (WMREC) in Keedysville, Maryland. The students will learn about grain utilization in livestock production and animal science, importance of grain products for good nutrition, and grain production. The program is available in the fall months; however in class programs are available.



**Youth will participate in the following learning stations at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center:**

## **Station #1 – Grain Nutrition**

The students will learn about MY Pyramid; identify food products made from grains, and the nutritional value and health benefits of grain products. Each student will learn the function of each ingredient, science, math, reading skills and team building skills through hands on experiential learning tasks such as making a loaf of bread.

## **Station #2 – Animal Science**

The students will learn about the different types of digestive systems between various livestock, the digestion process, and the different uses for grains in animal feeds and roughages. The students will be given the opportunity to interact with the live animals and evaluate grains in various feedstuffs.

## **Station #3 – Grain Production**

The students will learn the anatomy of a plant and will develop an understanding of the difference between several grain seed characteristics. The students will take a wagon ride through the research farm and complete a grain mosaic. The students will discuss the planting, growing and harvesting of various grains.



## Unable to attend as a field trip ?

**Those schools unable to attend the program at the WMREC would have the option of an in-class program. The program would include the following learning activities:**

### **Grain Nutrition:**

The students will learn the about MY Pyramid ([www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov)); identify food products made from grains, and the nutritional value and health benefits of grain products. Each student will learn the function of each ingredient while developing team building skills making a loaf of bread as partners.

### **Grain Production:**

The students will learn the anatomy of a plant and will develop an understanding of the difference between several grain seed characteristics. The students will complete a grain mosaic while discuss the planting, growing and harvesting of various grains. A supplemental video will provide students the opportunity to associate the equipment used and methods for harvesting grains.

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