

# 2012 Food for Thought Placemat Design Contest



**Students can win cash  
by designing a placemat  
illustrating agriculture!**

## **Objectives:**

1. To encourage student learning about the importance of agriculture in their everyday lives.
2. To increase awareness and appreciation of agriculture in classrooms countywide.

## **Eligibility:**

The placemat design contest is open to all students in DeKalb County, grades 1 thru 5.

## **Prize Categories:**

Cash awards will be presented to winners in each grade level. First place winners will receive \$25; second place, \$15; third place, \$10.

**Winning designs will be  
printed on placemats  
for use at local restaurants  
and community events.**

**Teachers of first place  
winners will also  
receive a prize.**



**See back of flyer for complete rules.**

## Contest rules (Please read carefully!)

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1. Designs must be submitted on regular **8½" x 11"** white paper.
2. All designs **MUST** be horizontal/landscape (  ). Vertical designs will not be considered for final placing.
3. Designs may be created using marker, paint, colored pencil, ink, or crayons.
4. Each entry should include a legible **design entry form** (provided). Attach the form to the back of the entry with tape so it may be easily removed. No glue, staples, or paper clips, please.
5. Teachers are asked to complete and submit a **class entry form** (provided) with their students' designs. (Forms are available at [www.dekalbfarmbureau.org](http://www.dekalbfarmbureau.org).)
6. Submit only one entry per student.
7. Students' names should not appear on the front of entries.
8. A minimum of 10 entries must be submitted per class. (Classes that have fewer than 10 students may enter – please make a note of actual class size on the class entry form.)
9. To encourage this activity as a class project and in the interest of fairness, designs should be completed in the classroom.
10. Original entries will be returned at the conclusion of the contest. However, all designs become the property of the DeKalb County Farm Bureau and may be used for purposes of promotion, etc.

## Judging criteria

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1. The design **clearly illustrates theme** (*see grade level themes listed below*).
2. The design is **creative and original**.
3. Artwork and handwriting are clearly **student's own work** (*no stencils, please*).
4. **Spelling is correct**. (Entries are not disqualified for misspellings, but spelling is taken into consideration in final placing. Winning designs will be reproduced; we want to represent your students in the best manner possible!)

## Agricultural themes by grade

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**1st - If I Were a Farmer**

**3rd - Farm Grown (food and/or products)**

**2nd - Thanks to Dairy Cows**

**4th - I'm Connected to Agriculture!**

**5th - Agriculture Careers**

**Supplemental materials** The design themes for each grade closely follow the themes of our Ag in the Classroom Presentations, making this contest a great follow-up if you signed up for a presentation. Several excellent resources, including educational kits, books, videos, and lesson ideas are also available on loan to help students at each grade level understand agriculture. For a list of available resources, call Rhodora Collins at (815)756-6361 or visit [www.dekalbfarmbureau.org](http://www.dekalbfarmbureau.org), click on "Ag Literacy," then select "Teacher Resource Guide."

**Awards night** Winning students, their families, and their teachers will be invited to attend Awards Night on April 12 at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Building. Winning designs will be on display and cash awards will be distributed. Winners will be notified through a mailing to teachers and parents.

**Entry deadline:**

**Friday, March 16, 2012  
before 4:30 p.m.**

**at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau office,  
1350 W. Prairie Dr., Sycamore, IL 60178.**

**For more information,  
call 815/756-6361.**