

**Pet Respect** (grades K to 4th) Staff will meet with small groups of students on an appointment basis and will talk about the concept of pets and their roles in our homes and society. More importantly, going over basic safety to prevent harm to students and pet, pet care and relating responsibility to not only the pet but also your neighbors and community. Touching on the value pets have in therapy for physical and emotional well being will be demonstrated. Each (series of 6, about 30 minutes each) visit is accompanied by a dog as the model of the pet. We branch out and talk about different pets based on the classroom interest. Each student will get an opportunity to work and interact one-on-one with the dog during certain sessions whether it is getting a chance to brush, walk or toss the ball. A complete program would include 6 sessions. \$20 Speaker fee per session



**Agriculture Literacy Day** (2nd grade) New York celebrates an Agriculture Literacy Day annually in March. The Rensselaer County Farm Bureau and a team of volunteers do a book reading and deliver school enrichment projects that relate to the chosen book for teachers to use in the classroom. The school enrichment projects fit directly into the NY Learning Standards. A different book is selected every year. For 2012, Seed Soil Sun by Chris Peterson has been selected. The program is delivered in classrooms and takes roughly 30 minutes. At the conclusion of the workshop the book is donated to the respective school's library. Contact us for a presentation to be delivered some day in the months of March to May. No Charge



**Field to Food** (grades K to 4th) This program involves a teacher training and the delivery of a life size cow named Clover to your classroom to be used as an educational prop for the content of the program. At a time when more of our society is removed from agriculture and food production, this program intends to enlighten students on where their food and fiber (clothing) come from. From Field to Food will address the concepts of all that is involved in getting a gallon of milk from the farm to the table of Rensselaer County Residents. The program focuses primarily on the Dairy Industry since dairy farming is one of the largest agricultural industries in New York State and Rensselaer County. In addition, this will be a comprehensive look at agriculture and will touch on concepts applicable to Earth Science, Math, Nutrition and Social Studies. Classrooms may have access to the cow and accompanying teaching materials for one week at a time. This program was underwritten by the New York State 4-H foundation, Agrimark, Rensselaer County Dairy Princess Program, Rensselaer County Farm Bureau and Dairylea. The cow and support materials will be available October through June. Cost is \$30 per classroom.

**Agriculture Days** (grades 2nd to 4th) Two separate days will be scheduled for field trips that expose youth to where their food and fiber come from. Both to be held at different locations, one in the Fall and another in the Spring. Flyers will be available roughly 3 months prior to each Ag Day and will be distributed to schools through out Rensselaer County. If you would like to receive more detailed information contact us. Schools supply their own transportation. Cost ranges from \$2 to \$5 per student.



*Kids  
Connection*

## School Enrichment and After School Offerings



61 State St  
Troy, NY 12180

518-272-4210

[www.ccerensselaer.org](http://www.ccerensselaer.org)



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
Rensselaer County

**Baby Think It Over/Empathy Belly** (grades 9th to 12th) The Baby Think it Over Program provides students with a realistic parenting simulation. Students are required to provide parenting to a realistic baby model. The baby simulator then provides feedback on rough handling, neglect and total minutes of crying. The Empathy Belly Pregnancy Simulator allows students to experience twenty typical symptoms of pregnancy. \$50 Damage Deposit.

**Teamwork-Team Play** (grades 5th to 12th)

Teamwork is the concept of people working together cooperatively. Through the use of Raccoon Circles, puzzles, and challenges, students will develop skills that will work in real-life situations. Emphasis will be placed on learning how to work in teams to accomplish a goal while having fun at the same time. Students will discover how to listen, question, persuade, help, share, and participate as part of a successful, efficient team. \$30 Speaker Fee



**Incubation and Embryology** (grades k-12) This is a hands-on approach to presenting the life cycle from fertilization to hatch. Assistance establishing an incubation setup in the classroom including teaching materials, incubator, egg sources, and technical support are part of this offering. "Eggsploring the egg," and "building a home tweet home," are examples of some classroom activities.

Incubator use fee \$20 and \$10 damage deposit



**ReCharge** (grades k-12) This fun packed interactive program teaches students about nutrition and exercise put fourth in terms of "Energy In and Energy Out." This program includes a kit with 29 activities, footballs, cones, an instructional DVD, food models and NFL ReCharge Cards. The kit would be appropriate for any afterschool, health or physical education classroom. \$30 speaker/ training fee including kit

**Take Action at Home** (grades 3– 12) Learn more about energy, its sources, uses, and impacts on our environment and economy. Teach youth how to assess their energy habits, discover ways to make changes and pledge to make our world more energy efficient. \$10 use fee and kit comes with student activity take home books

**Science Tool Kits** Grab and go kits are available to teachers and afterschool site directors. Topics include: Animal Science (4to12), Astronomy(4 to 8), Climate in Your Backyard(4 to 12), Geospatial Science (3 to 12); Entomology (3 to 6) & Lost Lady Bugs (3 to 6). For more detailed descriptions of these tool kits contact our office. There is a \$10 user fee and a Damage Deposit of \$10.



**Citizen Science Projects** (Grades k-12) Real Scientist are looking for the help of youth to help carry out their research. For more information on these projects please call the office (518-272-4210)

- Birds
- Forestry & Wildlife
- Mastodon Research
- Astronomy (from your computer)
- Gardening
- Invasive Species
- Tree Inventory

**Container Gardening** (grades K to 4th) This program is offered annually which includes distribution of plants, soil and a teacher training. Area growers provide the plants for distribution. Request for participation in this program comes out in April and the classroom plant distribution and teacher training take place in early May. This is an opportunity for students to approach learning the plant life cycle in a hands-on way. No Charge



**Operation Daffodil** (grades k to 12) This is a great project to involve youth in beautifying school grounds while youth learn the life cycle of a plant. Daffodils are a great flowering plant for a school project because they are planted in the fall and emerge in the spring allowing youth to see the entire life cycle. No Charge

