Georgia Farm Bureau
Middle School Essay Contest 2014

Topic: My Plate is Georgia Grown

Eating healthy is important. USDA's Choose My Plate established five food groups: Grains, Fruits, Vegetables, Dairy, and Protein. Did you know that Georgia farmers grow crops or raise animals that fit in all of these food groups. As you research and write your essay, you should be sure and answer these questions.

1. Why is it important to have a healthy diet? (10 points)
2. What do Georgia farmers and farmers in your county grow that help meet nutritional needs in the five food groups? (40 points)
3. What is the economic value of what is grown in Georgia to the state? (20 points)
4. How can you eat healthy and support local farmers? (20 points)

Bibliography (10 points)
- Cite credible resources such as universities, etc. (Wikipedia does not count)
- Source should include name of the publication, date, title of article, author

Contest Guidelines:
- The student must be enrolled in the 6th, 7th or 8th grade in Georgia for the 2013-2014 academic year.
- The contest must be entered through the county Farm Bureau.
- The essay must be accompanied by the official title sheet. No name should appear on the essay itself.
- It is preferable that the essay be typed. However, an essay that is neatly handwritten in ink will be accepted.
- Typed essays should be double spaced, minimum 12 point font (Arial or Times New Roman preferred), 1-inch margins, and maximum length of 2 pages. Handwritten essays should be in ink on lined notebook paper with a maximum length of 3 pages.
- The county winning essay must be submitted to the Georgia Farm Bureau Field Services Department in Macon by Friday, February 21, 2014. (Each county Farm Bureau will choose one winner at the county level.)
- Previous state winners of the contest are not eligible.

Judging Criteria:
- How well the topic is addressed
- Command of conventions of standard English grammar and usage
- Use of primary and secondary sources for research on topic

PRIZES

District Winner:
10 District Winners $100 cash each

State Winner:
$150.00 cash
(in addition to the district award)

This contest is sponsored by
Georgia Farm Bureau.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau office.
GEORGIA FARM BUREAU - 2014
MIDDLE SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST
(Grades 6, 7 and 8)

Topic: "My Plate is Georgia Grown"

County Farm Bureau: ____________________________________________

Student's Name: ________________________________________________

Name student is called by: _______________________________________

Grade Level: __________________

Home Address: ________________________________________________

City & Zip Code: ______________________________________________

Mailing Address (if different from above): _________________________

Phone Number (Area Code): _____________________________________

Father's Name: ________________________________________________

Mother's Name: ________________________________________________

Name of School: ______________________________________________

We hereby certify that this essay was written by the student whose name appears above. We
understand that once a student has won this contest at the state level, they are not eligible to compete
again.

_________________________  ________________________________
Date                       Parent or Guardian

For County Farm Bureau Office Use Only

_________________________ County Farm Bureau hereby certifies that this essay was the winner in our county
essay contest.

_________________________ County Farm Bureau President

ESSAYS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014

Send to: Georgia Farm Bureau
         Field Services Department
         Attn: Marilyn Akers