



# EXPO ENGAGES YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

## Situation

Agriculture provides food and jobs across the nation. Youth learning about agriculture is becoming increasingly important as the human population grows; they are the future scientists, farmers, inventors, land stewards, and business leaders who will make decisions and discover innovative ways to approach agriculture. Youth can make better-informed decisions if more aware

of how their food is produced, how it affects their health, the importance of agriculture in our society, and the types of agricultural careers.

The Carbon County Expo provides information and experiences to do that. Approximately 200 fourth graders each year are exposed to a variety of agricultural topics and occupations during the expo. Collaborators are:



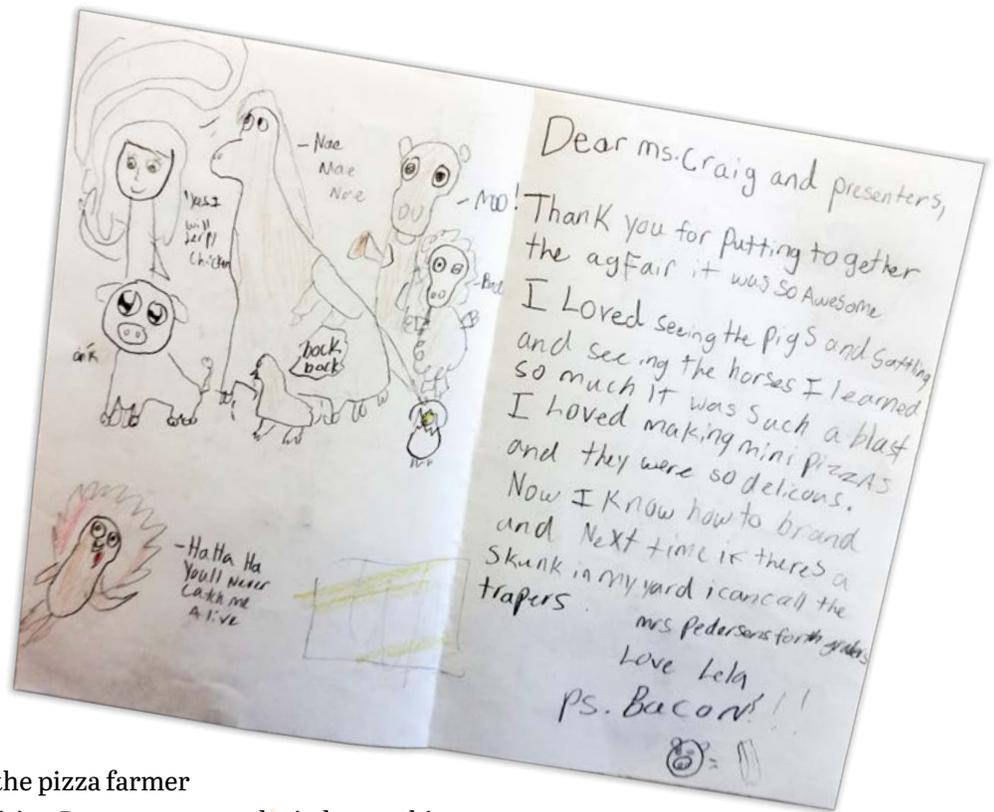
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- UW Extension
- Carbon County Stock Growers
- Carbon County Weed and Pest
- Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation District
- Bureau of Land Management

- Various wildlife services in Carbon County
- Veterinarians
- Carbon County Higher Education
- Local farmers and ranchers
- 4-H members
- Carbon County schools

The 2015 expo engaged youth in hands-on learning experiences around working dogs, pizza farmer (described below), roping, tools of a veterinarian, weed and pest identification, branding, gardening, wool, property rights, and live animal stations such as horse, beef, swine, and poultry.



The Carbon County 4-H educator taught the pizza farmer station with the aid of the Cent\$ible Nutrition Program associate and support staff. Youth were involved in discussions about the importance of agriculture, different types of agriculture, and how each ingredient in pizza comes from agriculture.

and tried something new, such as kale or mushrooms, on their pizzas. Some discovered they actually liked the new items. The youth learned new skills with a few simple ways to make their own pizza snacks at home using tortillas, bread, and other ingredients.

## Impact

Ten Carbon County 4-H members delivered presentations at live animal stations about horses, swine, goats, sheep, poultry, beef, and rabbits. 4-H youth presenters gained leadership experience through teaching others about agriculture and 4-H.

At the end of the Pizza Farmer station, each group was asked how they would respond if someone said “agriculture is not important” – 95 percent responded with enthusiasm, “Yes, it is important!” When asked why, they gave a variety of responses, including, “That’s where our food comes from.” When asked what their favorite topic of the day was, responses included the pizza farmer station, poultry, roping, wildlife, and veterinarian stations.

Youth identified a variety of vegetables, grains, fruits, and animals used in food production during the “pizza farmer” discussion. Some changed their usual behaviors



Carbon County  
4-H Facebook  
<http://bit.ly/Carbon4H>