

PRESS RELEASE

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Free Resources Now Available to Students and Schools from the Farm To School Program

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry released new resources now available to families and schools across the state through the Farm to School Tasteful Harvest program. These resources are made available due to the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant.

These free educational resources were created for classrooms, cafeterias and families to promote Oklahoma-grown vegetables and fruits offered during meals. The free online resources for cafeterias include posters and recipes promoting a variety of locally-grown specialty crops such as tomatoes, berries, watermelon, squash, asparagus, carrots, cucumbers, peppers, peaches, sweet potatoes, broccoli and radishes.

In addition to the cafeteria resources, classroom teachers can find a Tasteful Harvest outline for each of the crops that highlight classroom recipes, educational facts and history about the crops, lab ideas, lesson activities, literature options and more!

For families looking to incorporate these Oklahoma fruits and vegetables into their daily lives, a handout is also available that includes how to pick the best produce, recipes, crafts and activities to do at home. Each crop has its own handout.

The Farm to School program is also creating a cookbook to be released in the near future. These resources will be used to increase student accessibility, knowledge and consumption of various specialty crops offered at school and at home.

To find and download the materials, visit <u>http://okfarmtoschool.com/tasteful-harvest-resources/</u>.