

AFBFA

Virtual Livestream Events, e-Learning Support, and Professional Learning Network. AFBFA's livestream events have received nearly 1,000 registrations. Via these events, the team explored with its participants how "anchoring phenomena" can be used in a unit of instruction and how "investigative phenomena" can be used in *figuring out* scientific concepts. Participants engaged with the anchoring phenomena of each storyline produced by AFBFA. Then, they walked through elements of the anchoring phenomena routine to learn how this technique can be used to kick off a unit of study and drive student motivation throughout the unit, as well as gain familiarity with the storyline's instructional arc. While we made sense of and identified related phenomena, participants got firsthand accounts of how the disciplinary core ideas, cross-cutting concepts, and science and engineering practices within these units get applied in the real world through connections with our guest speakers. These events were facilitated by educators and enriched by our guests. Facilitator and speaker bios and intro videos are available here: <https://www.onthefarmstem.com/bios>. View the archived events here: <https://www.onthefarmstem.com/events/livestream-events>.

To support a community of learners pursuing the implementation of storylines in the classroom, we will have two asynchronous courses titled *Introduction to Storylines* and *Creating Culture that Makes it Work* available. These resources are a great support for teachers who are just getting started with this approach to science education or for storyline veterans in need of a refresher or materials to use when coaching others.

Many initiatives fall short of achieving high impact due to lack of support during implementation and beyond. We recognize this in the journey of storyline adoption. We are exploring the best way to provide educators with a professional learning network to support the efforts of those who adopt this approach and who adopt using phenomena found in agriculture to enhance student learning; a space for reflection, inquiry, support, research, guidance, etc. This network will include storyline experts to answer questions and provide insight and informal coaching as well as field experts to address content. More to come on this platform soon!

Unit Badging. NextGen Science will begin final unit reviews very soon. We anticipate final scores/badges to be announced by late summer.

On the Farm STEM Immersive Event. On the Farm has been postponed to mid-September. It is our hope that we will still be able to provide the same high-quality immersive event as scheduled, but at this later date. We are monitoring health data carefully and will continue to communicate with participants about the event's status.

Our mission at AFBFA is to build awareness and understanding of agriculture through education – to promote and support agricultural literacy. We believe that we will need an agriculturally literate society to ensure a sustainable future. This is why agriculture provides the perfect context for science education. Agriculture weaves into all aspects of our daily lives. Exploring science through the lens of agriculture is aspirational in that it engages students in figuring out how to solve global challenges that face our society. It's also practical in that the science, engineering and technology used in the production of our food, fiber and fuel provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of science by applying their knowledge in a practical and relatable context.