

“Ag is Cool” Story written by Kieran Shaw

One day, a nine-year-old boy named Sam woke up super excited! He was going to the Ohio State Fair. His family was farmers in Franklin County. Sam got out of bed and put on his favorite t-shirt, his Ohio State t-shirt. He got in the truck and they drove off.

Soon they got to the State Fair and Sam jumped up and down until they got to the gate. They finally got in and Sam first noticed the Cardinal statue. Sam wanted a picture next to it. When they started walking they saw the Ag is Cool barn. Sam’s mom went inside and found a scavenger hunt and the first spot was in the barn. They were having so much fun at the fair that they completely forgot about the rest of the scavenger hunt.

The family of farmers had so much fun at the fair, seeing the butter cow, riding rides, talking to Smokey the Bear and eating. Unfortunately, they had to leave, but a strange thing happened. Sam couldn’t leave; his parents went home without noticing their son was missing. Sam was scared. That is when a woman from the Agriculture barn came up to him and gave him another scavenger hunt. Sam knew exactly what to do.

Sam went to the agriculture barn and read that over 1,200 families passed down their farm for 100 years. Sam knew his farm was actually his great-great grandpa’s before him. Sam next went to the sheep and goat barn and read that it takes 150 yards of wool to make a single baseball. Sam loved baseball. He thanked sheep for bringing his favorite sport to the world. Sam went to the cow barn and read that a newborn cow weights between 60 to 100 pounds. The farm across the street of him had cows. One of them just had a baby that weighed 84 pounds.

Sam went to the pig barn and learned that a pig’s diet of corn and soybeans allows them to grow fast. Sam grew corn and soybean at his farm. He mostly ate corn and

soybeans like pigs. He went to the Vet Ed center where he milked a cow. He learned that a dairy cow can produce nine gallons of milk a day. He buys milk from his neighbor. He also learned that the average temperature of a cow is 101.5, he needed to tell his neighbor because he keeps his cows at 102.5. Sam went to the chicken barn and learned the average hen will lay 300 eggs a year! His mom makes pancakes every week using one egg for all three, in one year; one hen can make 900 pancakes! Sam went to the Donahey Ag & Hort building and learned that there are 3,500 uses for corn. He only knew 3! He also learned that there are about 24,000 soybean farmers. Sam is one of them! Sam finally learned a fact about Franklin County! A cow named Maudine became Homecoming Queen of Ohio State University!

Sam turned in his paper and got strawberry ice cream. He ate his reward while running to the entrance. Sam ran out of the State Fair and celebrated. All of a sudden BEEP BEEP BEEP. Sam woke up and shut off his alarm clock. On the way to the state fair he told his parents, there is 1,200 century farmers, it takes 150 yards of wool to make a baseball, newborn cow weighs between 60 and 100 pounds, pigs' diet is corn and soybeans, dairy cows produce nine pounds of milk a day, the average temperature of a cow is 101.5, hens lay 300 eggs a year, there are 3,500 uses of corn, there are 24,000 soybean farmers, and a cow was the Ohio State University Homecoming Queen.