

Planting Seeds of Knowledge

with The MAiZE and Pioneer Hi-Bred International

- Have you ever wondered how much your class really knows about agriculture?
- Do your students think food is actually grown and manufactured at the grocery store?
- What is agriculture and why should it be addressed in the classroom?

The MAiZE, a human puzzle carved into several acres of cornstalks over your head, is dedicated to helping students learn more about agriculture by allowing them to experience it firsthand. As an activity designed to test the wit and skill of those daring to find their way out of the labyrinth, The MAiZE also offers a unique opportunity to educate about agriculture in a fun environment.

Last year, thousands of elementary students visited The MAiZE at its various locations around the country. This year, The MAiZE is again focusing its efforts on teaching children—and adults for that matter—about the importance of agriculture in daily life. This teacher's guide and the enclosed activity sheet have been designed to help generate ideas for teaching about agriculture in the classroom, before exposing your students to the hands-on experience of The MAiZE. The lesson ideas and activities are centered around corn and agriculture in order to allow students to become familiar with the topics they will be "tested" on at The MAiZE. Students who visit us will be provided with an educational passport that—depending on how well the wandering maze-goer answers the educational questions it contains—will help guide them along the correct pathway. Enclosed is a sample.

Please photocopy and utilize these materials in your classroom in any way you feel appropriate. Then, it is our hope that you and your class will visit us and take agriculture back out of the classroom and into the field!

