

Hi! My name is Abigail Slack. I finished 4th grade at Maysville Elementary in Muskingum Co.. I am going to talk to you about the things I learned about agriculture by using my Ag. is Cool passport to travel through the Ohio State Fair with my family.

The first station my family and I went to was the ODA tent where I picked up my passport. There we learned that a century farm has been in the same family for 100 years. That's older than my grandma and she's 90!

The second station we walked through was the Sheep station at the Brown Sheep Building. The coolest fact we learned there was that there are 150 yards of wool yarn in one baseball! We also got to see women pulling wool and spinning it into yarn. They were using their feet on pedals to move the spinning wheel.

The third station we went to was the Dairy station at the OVMA Veterinary Ed. Center. One thing we learned was that the average body temperature of a cow is 101.5 That would mean I was sick! The next thing we learned was that on average, a dairy cow can produce 9 gallons of milk each day. I wonder how much ice cream that would make? We also got to see a cow in the early stages of labor. Later, we got to see the calf that was born. It took pretty long! The Beef station was next at the Heritage Hall. There we learned that when calves are born they usually weigh 60-100 pounds. My sister weighs 65 pounds and she is 8 years old!

After the Vonovich Livestock/ Trade Center, we went to the Swine center at O'Neill Swine Bldg. There we learned that a pig's diet is made up mostly of corn and soybeans. I thought they only ate leftovers!

The sixth station we went to was the Poultry Pavilion. We learned that an average hen lays 300 eggs in a year! I also got to see lots of different breeds of chickens. My favorite was the Silkie.

The final three stations were in the Ag/Hort building. There we learned about soy, corn, wheat, the Ohio Farm Bureau and Land and Living. I was surprised to learn that there are over 26,000 soy bean farmers in Ohio! I was also surprised with how many different things corn was incorporated into-3,500! There are spoons made from corn starch too. I went on to find my county, Muskingum and learn an amazing fact is that the Y-bridge is in our county.

From my Agriculture Adventure at the Ohio State Fair, I learned that agriculture is not just about growing plants. It is about how people need and use animals and plants as a source of food, clothing, jobs, and to make many different products like baseballs. I do think Ag. is Cool and I can't wait to go back to the Ohio State Fair next year!

Abigail Slack