Authentic Tractor Simulator

Program Area: Education and Ag Promotion (EAP)
County Farm Bureau: Clinton County Farm Bureau
State: IN
Membership Category: 1,001-3,000
Year: 2013
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Program Description: In order to meet the goals they set for their Farm Bureau, Clinton County introduced an interactive element to their booth at the county fair. By using a cab from a John Deere 8360R, computer steering wheel, computer and projector, they were able to produce a tractor simulator to appeal to local citizens of all ages to experience and gain interest in additional aspects of agriculture, including farming and ranching. This project aimed to capture the attention of the general public to foster relationships between Farm Bureau and local citizens.

Once the simulator was built, participants were able to sit in an actual tractor cab and experience some of the different uses of tractors such as plowing, sowing, spraying, cultivating and baling. This project was particularly unique because no other organization at the county fair operated an interactive exhibit.

This event was a great success! For the first time in five years, the county Farm Bureau's booth had a constant stream of visitors. There was always a line for people to try their hand at operating a tractor in either an obstacle course or one of the traditional tasks for a tractor. Children were even lining up outside of the building waiting for the booth to open. The simulator enabled both children and adults to learn something about agriculture in a fun and engaging way.