

## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

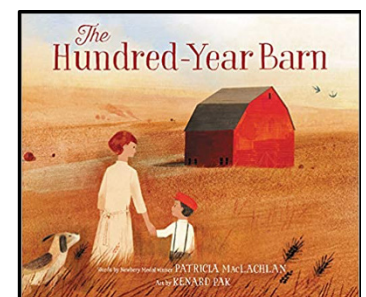
### THE HUNDRED-YEAR BARN

by *Patricia MacLachlan*

One hundred years ago, a little boy watched his family and community come together to build a grand red barn. This barn become his refuge and home—a place to play with friends and farm animals alike.

As seasons passed, the barn weathered many storms. The boy left and returned a young man, to help on the farm and to care for the barn again. The barn has stood for one hundred years, and it will stand for a hundred more: a symbol of peace, stability, caring and community.

This beautiful picture book is perfect for young children who are curious about history and farm life.



### Fun Facts:

\* Hundreds of years ago, many farmers would seal their barns with linseed oil, which is an orange-colored oil derived from the seeds of the flax plant. To this oil, they would add a variety of things, most often milk and lime, but also ferrous oxide, or rust. Rust was plentiful on farms and because it killed fungi and mosses that might grow on barns, and it was very effective as a sealant. It turned the mixture red in color. When paint became more available, many people chose red paint for their barns in honor of tradition.

\* Sometimes farm animals are kept in barns so the farmer can keep them comfortable when it's too hot or cold outside. They are also kept in barns so predators don't hurt them.

### Videos

- \* Barn Tour
- \* Farm Monitor- modern dairy barn
- \* Time Lapse Amish Barn Raising

### Activities

- \* Build a Barn with marshmallows and toothpicks
- \* Apple Cider in a slow cooker
- \* Barn Snack
- \* Bean Barn-window seed planter template
- \* Barn Template- cut the doors open and have the students draw what animal they see inside the barn!
- \* Barn and Silo Drawing