

Classroom Activity – *Careers in Agriculture*

Activity type: Post-visit activity

Level: Career Education 6 – 9

Science 6 - 7, Science 9, Science 10, Environmental Science 20

Time Duration: One lesson period

Description: Students develop an understanding of careers related to agriculture through exploration and research.

Career Education Curriculum Outcomes

Outcomes	Student Learning
Career Education 6 - Connections to Community	
Utilize Career information.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use digital resources to investigate variety of roles in the agriculture sector - Understand different work environments and determine how transferable skills, knowledge, and attitudes can fulfill the requirements
Career Education 7 - Connections to Community	
Analyze the contributions work makes to the individual and their community and globally.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognize the global importance of careers in agriculture in Saskatchewan - Report on how these careers affect people locally and globally
Career Education 8 - Connections to Community	
Examine how a disposition for lifelong learning connects to potential career pathways.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in group discussions in which their own skills are identified, and learn what strategies they can use to highlight these skills
Career Education 9 - Connections to Community	
Utilize career information to construct an organized plan of career building which reflects an attitude and expectation of lifelong learning.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand skills, knowledge and abilities needed to carry out work roles in the agriculture sector in Saskatchewan

Science Curriculum Outcomes

Outcomes	Student Learning
Science 6 Life Science - Diversity of living Things	
Recognize, describe, and explore related careers.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledge examples of science and technology-related careers in agriculture - Describe careers that need understanding of the diversity of living things
Science 7 Earth and Space Science - Earth's Crust and Resources	
Identify locations and processes used to extract Earth's geological resources and their impact on society.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research Saskatchewan careers related to resources and agriculture
Science 9 Reproduction and Human Development	
Examine the process of and influences on the transfer of genetic information and the impact of that understanding on society past and present.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Describe careers related to agriculture that require an understanding of genetics
Science 10 Career Investigation	
Investigate career paths related to various branches and sub-branches of science.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledge the diversity in science-related careers and how these careers engage with the community - Research educational programs offered at post-secondary institutions which are related to science and technology and need for a career in agriculture
Environmental Science 20: Career Exploration	
Analyze and explore environmental science related career paths in Saskatchewan, Canada and the world.	I can; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make connections between careers and agricultural science in Saskatchewan with other parts of the world

Overview:

In this lesson students will develop awareness for careers in the agriculture sector by exploring some of the careers in this diverse area. In Saskatchewan, careers in agriculture make up a large part of the workforce. Agriculture careers are varied and can be anything from a geneticist to a food nutritionist.

Education is the key to breaking the stereotype that agriculture careers are only farming and ranching. Saskatchewan's post-secondary institutions have programs which educate future employees in agriculture related areas. Students will learn about agriculture careers through self-guided explorations into a career of their choice.

Introduction:

1. Developing understanding of careers in the agriculture sector by conducting a group discussion on where food comes from.
 - Other than the grocery store, where does your food come from?
 - Who grows the food we eat?
 - What are some steps in food productions?
 - What are some of the industries which relate to agriculture?
 - How do careers in agriculture affect the global economy?

Activity:

2. Begin the activity by taking a few minutes and getting students to write down all of the different careers they can think of that are related to agriculture.
3. Review careers related to agriculture by presenting a list of agriculture careers (see resource links). Here are a few examples;

- Agronomist	- Environmental Technician
- Veterinarian	- Hydrologist
- Animal Inspector	- Farm Equipment Technician
- Genetic Lab Technician	- Engineer
- Fishery Officer	- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Market Analyst	- Food Technologist
- Accountant	- Food Processing Inspector
- Plant and Animal Geneticist	- Dietician
- Electrician	- Forest Ecologist
- Fertilizer Specialist	- Wildlife Biologist
- Soil Conservationist	- Livestock Transporter
- Watershed Specialist	- Welder
- Biologist	- Hospitality Management
- Ecologist	
4. Once examples have been provided, have students complete a career assessment which highlights careers in Agriculture. The Holland's Interest Assessment can be found at:
<https://utah.agclassroom.org/teachercenter/index.cfm?controller=main&action=lpsearch&lpID=579&searchGrade.gradeID=8&searchSub.subjectID=>
5. Have students choose a career they are interested in and research what the occupation entails. Students will develop a presentation about the occupation they chose to research. Encourage students to find a local connection to the

occupations and conduct an interview with someone in the career if possible. Information that should be included in each presentation is; education needed to be in the occupation, location most likely to be working, what to expect on an average day of work, and average salary range.

6. After the presentations, have students play “Ag-Career Guess” game. Students will write the occupation they researched on an index card. Collect all the cards and pass them out randomly. Once each student has a card they will hold it up to their forehead so that they cannot see the occupation card they have selected however, the other students can. Students will move around the room asking each other questions about the occupation displayed on their forehead. Questions that are asked must have a response of either yes or no. For example “Do I work with animals?”, “Will I need to go to university to do this job?”, “Will I work outside?”

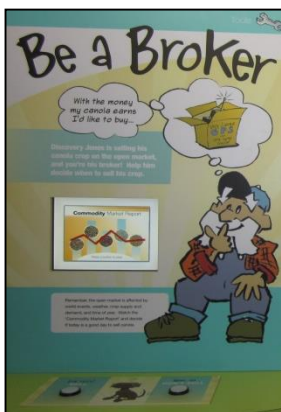
Extension:

Have students visit this website. <http://www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/jtypes2.asp>. Students will complete a Myers-Briggs assessment. Once complete, students can research careers based on their assessment. This can lead to career research based on numerous curriculums depending on subject being taught.

Materials:

Access to online resources, Holland’s Interest Assessment or other career interest assessment, index cards

Links to Saskatchewan Science Centre:



Richardson Ag-Grow-Land Exhibit

Where to go: “Terminal Office”

Go to the “Be a Broker” exhibit game. At this exhibit you will start to understand the role of a grain broker by selling a canola crop. You will have the option to either sell or not sell the grain. Grain prices are affected by supply and demand, world events, and even weather. Experience the fast paced world of the commodities markets.

What to say:

What are some factors that affect the market? What careers would relate to this exhibit? Do you think the price of grain affects the price of food?

Web Resources:

Technology in Agriculture (from Agriculture in the Classroom) -

http://www.aitc.sk.ca/pdf/studyseries/Technology_in_Agriculture.pdf

List of careers related to agriculture

<http://www.aitc.sk.ca/pdf/careerpathways.pdf>

Video relating increase in population to the increase in demand for food production and related careers

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=joUggaD6Mr0>

Agriculture in the Classroom from Utah State YouTube channel – videos from people in various agriculture careers <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7B61381EE0438243>

Holland's Interest Assessment

<https://utah.agclassroom.org/teachercenter/index.cfm?controller=main&action=lpsearch&lpID=579&searchGrade.gradeID=8&searchSub.subjectID=>

Myers-Briggs Assessment

<http://www.humanmetrics.com/cgi-win/jtypes2.asp>