

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

Exploring Agriculture Education (Eighth Grade)

Course Number 02.01400

Course Description: Exploring Agricultural Education analyzes the different aspects of the agricultural industry. This course is designed to provide middle school students with an introduction to agricultural leadership and employability, animal science, plant science, forestry and natural resources, and mechanical systems.

Course Standard 1

AFNR-MSAGED8-1: Employability Skills

Demonstrate employability skills required by business and industry.

The following elements should be integrated throughout the content of this course.

1.1 Communicate effectively through writing, speaking, listening, reading, and interpersonal abilities.

Person-to-Person Etiquette	Telephone and Email Etiquette	Communicating at Work	Listening
Interacting with Your Boss	Telephone Conversations	Improving Communication Skills	Reasons, Benefits, and Barriers
Interacting with Subordinates	Barriers to Phone conversations	Effective Oral Communication	Listening Strategies
Interacting with Co-workers	Making and Returning Calls	Effective Written Communication	Ways We Filter What We Hear
		Effective Nonverbal Skills	Developing a Listening Attitude
		Effective Word Use	Show You Are Listening
		Giving and Receiving Feedback	Asking Questions
			Obtaining Feedback
			Getting Others to Listen

Nonverbal Communication	Written Communication	Speaking	Applications and Effective Résumés
Communicating Nonverbally	Writing Documents	Using Language Carefully	Completing a Job Application
Reading Body Language and mixed Messages		One-on-One Conversations	Writing a Cover Letter
Matching Verbal and Nonverbal communication		Small Group Communication	Things to Include in a Résumé
Improving Nonverbal Indicators		Large Group Communication	Terms to Use in a Résumé
Nonverbal Feedback		Making Speeches	Organizing Your Résumé
Showing Confidence Nonverbally		Answering Questions	Writing an Electronic Résumé
Showing Assertiveness		Visual and Media Aids	
		Errors in Presentation	

1.2 Demonstrate creativity by asking challenging questions and applying innovative procedures and methods.

Teamwork and Problem Solving	Meeting Etiquette
Thinking Creatively	Preparation and Participation in Meetings
Taking Risks	Conducting Two-Person or Large Group Meetings
Building Team Communication	Inviting and Introducing Speakers
	Preparing Visual Aids

1.3 Exhibit critical thinking and problem-solving skills to locate, analyze and apply information in career planning and employment situations.

a. Investigate educational requirements, job responsibilities, employment trends, and opportunities within the national career clusters using credible sources.

Problem Solving	Customer Service	The Application Process	Interviewing Skills	Finding the Right Job
Transferable Job Skills	Gaining Trust and Interacting with Customers	Providing Information, Accuracy and Double Checking	Preparing for an Interview	Locating Jobs and Networking
Becoming a Problem Solver	Learning and Giving Customers What They Want	Online Application Process	Questions to Ask in an Interview	Job Shopping Online
Identifying a Problem	Keeping Customers Coming Back	Following Up After Submitting an Application	Things to Include in a Career Portfolio	Job Search Websites
Becoming a Critical Thinker	Seeing the Customer's Point	Effective Résumés:	Traits Employers are Seeking	Staying Motivated to Search
	Selling Yourself and the Company	Matching Your Talents to a Job	Considerations Before Taking a Job	
		When a Résumé Should be Used		

1.4 Model work readiness traits required for success in the workplace including integrity, honesty, accountability, punctuality, time management, and respect for diversity.

Workplace Ethics	Personal Characteristics	Employer Expectations	Business Etiquette	Communicating at Work
Demonstrating Good Work Ethic	Demonstrating a Good Attitude	Behaviors Employers Expect	Language and Behavior	Handling Anger
Behaving Appropriately	Gaining and Showing Respect	Objectionable Behaviors	Keeping Information Confidential	Dealing with Difficult Coworkers
Maintaining Honesty	Demonstrating Responsibility	Establishing Credibility	Avoiding Gossip	Dealing with a Difficult Boss
Playing Fair	Showing Dependability	Demonstrating Your Skills	Appropriate Work Email	Dealing with Difficult Customers
Using Ethical Language	Being Courteous	Building Work Relationships	Cell Phone Etiquette	Dealing with Conflict
Showing Responsibility	Gaining Coworkers' Trust		Appropriate Work Texting	
Reducing Harassment	Persevering		Understanding Copyright	
Respecting Diversity	Handling Criticism		Social Networking	

Making Truthfulness a Habit	Showing Professionalism			
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1.5 Apply the appropriate skill sets to be productive in a changing, technological, diverse workplace to be able to work independently and apply team work skills.

Expected Work Traits	Teamwork	Time Management
Demonstrating Responsibility	Teamwork Skills	Managing Time
Dealing with Information Overload	Reasons Companies Use Teams	Putting First Things First
Transferable Job Skills	Decisions Teams Make	Juggling Many Priorities
Managing Change	Team Responsibilities	Overcoming Procrastination
Adopting a New Technology	Problems That Affect Teams	Organizing Workspace and Tasks
Use Technology Ethically & Efficiently	Expressing Yourself on a Team	Staying Organized
Interact Appropriately in a Digital World	Giving and Receiving Constructive Criticism	Finding More Time
		Managing Projects
		Prioritizing Personal and Work Life

1.6 Present a professional image through appearance, behavior and language.

On-the-Job Etiquette	Person-to-Person Etiquette	Communication Etiquette	Presenting Yourself
Using Professional Manners	Meeting Business Acquaintances	Creating a Good Impression	Looking Professional
Introducing People	Meeting People for the First Time	Keeping Phone Calls Professional	Dressing for Success
Appropriate Dress	Showing Politeness	Proper Use of Work Email	Showing a Professional Attitude
Behavior at Conventions		Proper Use of Cell Phone	Using Good Posture
Working in a Cubicle		Proper Use in Texting	Presenting Yourself to Associates
			Accepting Criticism
			Demonstrating Leadership

Course Standard 2

AFNR-MSAGED8-2: Total Ag Ed Program

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, and research of the total Three-Component Model of Agricultural Education.

- 2.1 Illustrate all three components of the Total Agricultural Education Program (classroom instruction, FFA, Supervised Agricultural Experience).
- 2.2 Summarize the historical events of the National FFA Organization.
- 2.3 Investigate current trends and events relating to National FFA and Georgia FFA Association.
- 2.4 Apply Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) concepts relating to employability and career readiness.
- 2.5 Create, implement, and maintain records for a Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE) related to the student's interests and needs.

Course Standard 3

AFNR-MSAGED8-3: Introduction to Agriculture

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, research, and careers in the Georgia agriculture industry.

- 3.1 Describe and discuss how agriculture provides basic human needs.
- 3.2 Illustrate the impact of agriculture on Georgia's economy and workforce.
- 3.3 Summarize important events in the history of agriculture in Georgia.
- 3.4 Investigate examples of commodities produced in your local area.

Course Standard 4

AFNR-MSAGED8-4: Plant Science

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, research, and careers in Plant Science.

- 4.1 Create new plants through sexual propagation.
- 4.2 Create new plants using asexual propagation techniques.
- 4.3 Summarize environmental conditions for plant growth (light, air, water, and soil).
- 4.4 Differentiate between the processes of photosynthesis and respiration.
- 4.5 Apply Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) concepts relating to plant science.

Course Standard 5

AFNR-MSAGED8-5: Forestry / Natural Resources

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, research, and careers in Forestry and Natural Resources.

- 5.1 Compare and contrast the forestry and natural resource industry.
- 5.2 Identify different forest products and their uses.
- 5.3 Explain various forest management practices. (Examples include, but are not limited to, prescribed burns, wildfires, clear cut, thinning, and reforestation.)
- 5.4 Investigate careers in forestry and natural resources industries.
- 5.5 Describe the parts of a tree, tree types, and physiological processes of tree growth.
- 5.6 Identify Georgia's commercially important trees.
- 5.7 Apply Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) concepts relating to forestry and natural resources.

Course Standard 6

AFNR-MSAGED8-6: Animal Science

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, research, and careers in Animal Science.

- 6.1 Recognize the signs and symptoms of animal health.
- 6.2 Demonstrate the proper restraint methods for animals.
- 6.3 Create a feed ration for livestock or companion animals.
- 6.4 Evaluate livestock or companion animals based on a breed standard.
- 6.5 Apply Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) concepts relating to animal science.

Course Standard 7

AFNR-MSAGED8-7: Agricultural Mechanics

Describe, illustrate, and apply information pertaining to current events, trends, research, and careers in Agricultural Mechanics.

- 7.1 Discuss and demonstrate safety procedures and appropriate behavior while working in the agriculture classroom, labs, and/or work sites.
- 7.2 Identify and safely operate all hand tools, power tools, and/or equipment in the agricultural mechanics laboratory.
- 7.3 Demonstrate proper use of tools for preparing conductors, mounting electrical enclosures, and connecting devices for branch and feeder circuits.
- 7.4 Plan and construct basic Agricultural Mechanics project utilizing a bill of materials.
- 7.5 Apply Career Development Event (CDE) and Leadership Development Event (LDE) concepts relating to agricultural mechanics.