

Incorporating Agriculture into Academia

Lesson Plans

How many times have we heard “**When will I ever use this again?**” in our classrooms? This resource is designed to answer that question for teachers and students.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program, along with the Wisconsin Agribusiness Council, developed a set of seven student brochures to help the teachers and students understand how agriculture relates to that school curriculum area and possible careers related to the department. The brochures complement the Wisconsin Agribusiness Council's booklet “**An Agriculture Career for You**”, a booklet explores the seven career pathways related to agricultural science careers, descriptions of some of the jobs, and website references for further exploration. The career booklets can be ordered by visiting http://www.wisagri.com/ed_materials.php

There are seven brochures focusing on core middle and high school departments:

- Agri- Math – Math Departments
- Agri- English – English Departments
- Agri- Social Studies – Social Studies Departments
- Agri- Business- Business Education Departments
- Agri- Technology – Computers and Technical Education Departments
- Agri- Entry Level Careers – Special Education Departments
- Agri- Foreign Language – Foreign Language Departments

What will students learn?

- An increased awareness of the variety of Wisconsin agricultural careers and job opportunities.
- The brochures will focus on how agriculture relates to the various core curriculum classes that high school students take.
- Understand how that subject relates to potential agricultural careers.
- How agricultural education courses and other related courses that will help them determine what career and education path they'd like to pursue.
- Meet people in career areas that reflect on how their middle and high school classes helped shape their career focus

This lesson plan packet offers several alternative ways to use these materials in classrooms. Enhancing the lesson plans with a Career Day, guest speakers, team teaching with an agriculture education instructor or guidance counselor, and incorporating career activities will give students a better understanding of career opportunities in agriculture!

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom Program has provided quality classroom resource materials to teachers and volunteers since the beginning of the program in 1984. Over the past twenty years, the program has offered several different agriculture units, lesson plans and resource guides to teachers that were distributed through teacher training workshops, in-service programs, county outreach programs, teacher's conventions, and through the mail, phone and email request. Partnering with the Wisconsin Agribusiness Council and the business and industry contacts it provides, this resource would enable secondary teachers to help students understand different applications of their core academic classes and the connection to agriculture careers. By showing examples of people in various careers, the students will be able to see the possible careers that can be obtained by combining agriculture with their other academic subjects. This project was funded with a USDA Ag in the Classroom Enrichment Grant.

All the lesson plans, student brochures and Career Day outlines can be downloaded at:

<http://www.wisagclassroom.org/teachers/IncorporatingAgriculture.php>

