



Lesson Plan

Fascinating Facts

Created: 3/2017 by the National FFA Organization

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completing these activities, students will...

1. Describe the impact of ethanol on our nation's economy.
2. Develop advocacy resources for their local community.
3. Understand the importance of advocacy.

TIME REQUIRED: 45 minutes

RESOURCES:

1. FFA.org
2. PDF – "Fascinating Facts About Ethanol" from Growth Energy
<https://ffa.box.com/s/il31icwgqntgs1ja3qz1i4zmqkk6q4b5>

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. A copy of the "Fascinating Facts About Ethanol" PDF for each student.
2. A blank piece of paper for each student.

THIS QUICK LESSON PLAN WOULD WORK WELL AS:

1. Part of a unit about agricultural advances.
2. Part of a unit about agricultural economics.
3. Part of a unit about agricultural advocacy.

THESE ACTIVITIES ARE ALIGNED TO THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A.Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PG-I.Professional Growth: Assume responsibility for attaining and improving upon the skills needed for career success.
- FFA.PG-J.Mental Growth: Embrace cognitive and intellectual development relative to reasoning, thinking and coping.
- FFA.CS-M.Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.

AFNR Cluster Skills

- CS.01. Analyze how issues, trends, technologies and public policies impact systems in the Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Career Cluster.

Common Core - Writing

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Common Core - Speaking and Listening

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

Common Core - Language

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.9-10.6 Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Common Core - Math Practices

- CCSS.MP3: Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
- CCSS.MP6: Attend to precision.
- CCSS.MP7: Look for and make use of structure.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.02. Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive.
- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.
- CRP.05. Consider the environmental, social and economic impact of decisions. Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organizations and the environment.
- CRP.06. Demonstrate creativity and innovation. Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization.
- CRP.08. Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Civic Literacy
- Communication
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Information Literacy
- Information, Communications, and Technology Literacy
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Media Literacy
- Productivity and Accountability

LESSON PLAN:

1. **Introduction:** Advocating for agriculture is important to ensure the consistent delivery of accurate agricultural facts and statistics to the general public. Agricultural companies have developed a series of resources they use to share the impact their company makes on the economy and the importance of their industry. We also play a key role in this delivery as consumers and future consumers. It is vital for us to know how to properly advocate and know the current issues facing agriculture.
2. **Activity:** Each student should have a copy of the PDF, "Fascinating Facts About Ethanol." Individually, have students write down the first three things they notice when they look at the PDF. These things could include colors used, facts, fonts, pictures, etc.
 - a. With a partner, have students discuss why they think those things stuck out to them first.
 - i. Guiding questions: What makes this handout effective? Is this a good advocacy tool for the company? Why?
 - b. Discuss as a class what makes an effective handout. Ideas: colors used, fonts, facts highlighted, etc.
 - c. With a partner, have students design a handout similar to the one they just saw for their agriculture class. This handout will be used to recruit more people to take the class and as an advocacy tool in the community.
3. **Follow Up:** Have students share their designed handouts with the rest of the class.
4. **Leveling Up:** Have students brainstorm and discuss where their designed handouts can be used throughout the community. They should think of various events and promotional activities where this handout would be effective in recruiting more students to take agriculture classes and help the community understand the value of agricultural education.