



Lesson Plan

What is Advocacy?

Created: 02/2018 by the National FFA Organization

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing these activities students will ...

1. Define advocacy using difference sources.
2. Know the difference between advocacy and non-advocacy.

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

RESOURCES:

1. FFA.org
2. Website: Merriam-Webster Dictionary, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>
3. Website: Fast Facts About Agriculture, <https://www.fb.org/newsroom/fast-facts>

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. Internet access
2. A copy of the "What is Advocacy?" worksheet

THIS QUICK LESSON PLAN WOULD WORK WELL AS PART OF:

1. An introductory agriculture lesson.
2. A public relations lesson.
3. An agricultural business lesson.

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.CS-M. Communication: Effectively interact with others in personal and professional settings.
- FFA.PG-J.Mental Growth: Embrace cognitive and intellectual development relative to reasoning, thinking and coping.

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.

Common Core-Writing

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- 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.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- 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.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Communication
- Information Literacy
- Collaboration

LESSON PLAN:

1. *Introduction:* Have a classroom discussion about the definition of advocacy, and compile the students' ideas into one definition. Once a definition is formed by the class pass out the "What is Advocacy?" worksheet.
2. *Activity:* Have students work through the top part of the worksheet, filling in the classroom definition of advocacy as well as the Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition. The direct URL is <https://www.merriam-webster.com/>. Have students work through the rest of the worksheet, identifying if the activity is advocacy or not advocacy by filling in an "A" for Advocacy and "NA" for Non-Advocacy.

Keep in mind that some of the action items could easily be both advocacy or not advocacy. This ensures students are thinking about each action item. The key is just a guideline.

3. *Follow-Up:* As a class, discuss the following questions:
 - a. What makes _____ (pick an item from the list below) a form of advocacy?
 - b. What are ways we can take that action one step further so it can be a more effective advocacy tool?
4. *Leveling Up:* Have students take action on one of the advocacy items about agriculture listed below. For example, have students find an agriculture fact from American Farm Bureau Fast Ag Facts (<https://www.fb.org/newsroom/fast-facts>) and create a poster that could be posted around the school. Create a "Twitter feed" on a tear sheet where students can write agriculture facts, what they want to advocate for or items they have taken action on. This sheet can be hung in the classroom and can be added to throughout classes.

NAME: _____

Aligned to the following standards:
FFA.PL-A, FFA.CS-M, FFA.PG-J; CCSS.SL. 9-10.1; CCSS. W.9-10.1,
CCSS. W.9-10.2; CRP.04

What is Advocacy?

DIRECTIONS:

Complete the worksheet by defining advocacy and identifying what action items are advocacy or not advocacy.

What was the classroom definition of advocacy?

What was the Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of advocacy?

Place an "A" next to the actions that are advocacy and an "NA" next to the actions that are non-advocacy.

Posting a tweet with an agriculture fact		Learning about hunger in your community	
Writing a complaint on social media		Meeting with a local official to discuss what the new park needs	
Sharing a fact during a discussion with friends		Visiting with a local official	
Giving your opinion on a book in class		Posting flyers around the school to run for student government	
Not speaking during a classroom discussion		Volunteering at a service project in your community	
Writing to a state legislator about an issue		Teaching an elementary class the importance of agriculture	

What is one thing you can do to be an advocate?

NAME: _____

Aligned to the following standards:
FFA.PL-A, FFA.CS-M, FFA.PG-J; CCSS.SL. 9-10.1; CCSS. W.9-10.1,
CCSS. W.9-10.2; CRP.04

What is Advocacy? KEY

DIRECTIONS:

Complete the worksheet by defining advocacy and identifying what action items are advocacy or not advocacy.

What was the classroom definition of advocacy?

What was the Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of advocacy?

The act or process of supporting a cause or proposal.

Place an "A" next to the actions that are advocacy and an "NA" next to the actions that are non-advocacy.

Posting a tweet with an agriculture fact	A	Learning about hunger in your community	NA
Writing a complaint on social media	NA	Meeting with a local official to discuss what the new park needs	NA
Sharing a fact during a discussion with friends	A	Visiting with a local official	A
Giving your opinion on a book in class	NA	Posting flyers around the school to run for student government	NA
Not speaking during a classroom discussion	NA	Volunteering at a service project in your community	NA
Writing to a state legislator about an issue	NA	Teaching an elementary class the importance of agriculture	NA

What is one thing you can do to be an advocate?