



Lesson Plan

Forgotten Farmers

Created: 12/2022 by the National FFA Organization

Description of Lesson: *Our words can be so powerful, and we easily forget how those little words can be exclusive. In the retiring address of 2021-22 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Mallory White, we will learn how to be more inclusive with our words and actions.*

Student Learning Objectives:

After completing these activities, students will ...

1. Understand how powerful our words can be no matter how big or small.
2. Develop a plan of action to be more inclusive and serve those easily forgotten.

Suggested Grade Level:

Grades 9 and 10 (This lesson is written so instructors can scale up or down based on class needs.)

Suggested Time: 60 minutes (*Time requirements may vary based upon student understanding and class schedule.)

Resources/References:

1. Video: "Forgotten Farmers" | Mallory White 2022 Retiring Address, <https://vimeo.com/777131643>

Related Resources:

1. Retiring Addresses and Keynote Speeches, [FFA.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/](https://ffa.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/).
2. Spanish version: <https://ffa.box.com/s/oy55kbnv3c8wbh1cwjftwdnsmqeqwtr>

Equipment and Supplies Needed:

1. A copy of the "Forgotten Farmers" worksheet for each student
2. Internet access to play the video in real time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time

Vocabulary:

1. Agriculture
2. Farmer
3. Inclusive
4. Excluding

Cross-Curricular Connections:

English/Language Arts

Students collaborate to develop a written plan of action for serving others.

Virtual Instruction Ideas:

Have students download and watch the video on a device of their choice and complete the worksheet.

Student Activity Sheets:

PDF: <https://ffa.app.box.com/file/1218323374192>

Word: <https://ffa.app.box.com/file/1218324310603>

Non-Design Word: <https://ffa.app.box.com/file/1218325534619>

Google Doc: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1d8Cv9-gUgvCcrvLdall-AzA26muEJSaAOu0lk2VyWn8/copy>

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.PL-C.Vision: Visualize the future and how to get there.
- FFA.PL-E.Awareness: Understand personal vision, mission and goals.
- 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.
- FFA.CS-N.Decision Making: Analyze a situation and execute an appropriate course of action.

Common Core – Writing

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

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.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

- Communication
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Leadership and Responsibility
- Think Creatively

Lesson Plan:

1. **Bell Ringer:** Develop a list of ten characteristics of a farmer that you have seen in person or from media sources. Share as a class to see the consistency and the diversity of what classmates think of when they think of a farmer.
2. **Introduction:** Hand out the worksheet “Forgotten Farmers” to each student. *Today, we are going to watch a retiring address from the 95th National FFA Convention & Expo. This retiring address was given by 2021-22 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Mallory White. In her speech, we learn how easy it is to forget about someone or a group of people and how that makes us feel. Additionally, we are reminded of how powerful our words can be, even little words like “and” and “but.”*

Before watching the video, look over the questions on the “Forgotten Farmers” worksheet, and be ready for the answers as you view the video.
3. **Activity:**
 - a. **Part 1:** Each student needs a copy of the worksheet “Forgotten Farmers.” Have students watch the retiring address of 2021-22 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Mallory White. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/777131643>. While students view the video, have them complete the questions.
 - b. **Part 2:** Students will work in groups to identify others that are often forgotten and come up with an action plan to do something for those who are forgotten. Their plans should honor or serve this forgotten group of people. Students will be able put those plans into action.
4. **Follow-up:** Have groups share their plans from Part 2 with the class.
5. **Exit Ticket:** Do you feel included in this class? How could I, as a teacher and/or FFA advisor, do a better job of making you feel more included?

Name: _____

Forgotten Farmers

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-C; FFA.PL-E; FFA.PG-J; FFA.CS-N; CCSS.ELA.W.9-10.4; CRP.02;
CRP.04; CRP.06; CRP.08

Part 1

Directions:

Complete the following activities while watching “Forgotten Farmers,” the retiring address of 2021-22 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Mallory White. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/777131643>.

FORGOTTEN FARMERS



Mallory talks about “her people.” Do you have “your people”? Who are those people?

What was Mallory’s goal as she traveled that she hoped would help her feel like she was back home?

As Mallory traveled, she learned how farmers from all across the land felt forgotten. Why do you think they felt this way?

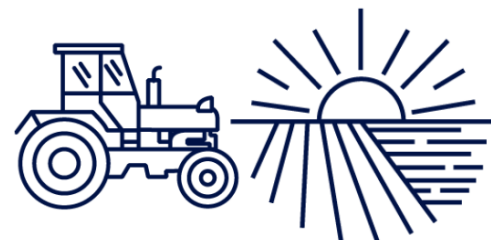
"It isn't just farming. It is so much more than that." This statement really bothered Mallory. How does it make you feel to hear agriculture and FFA described in this manner?

Mallory reminds us that our words can be powerful. Our words can be inclusive while excluding some at the same time. How can our words be both inclusive and exclusive?

“FFA is farming AND science, technology, business and leadership.” —M. White
Come up with your own saying to describe agriculture or FFA.

Name: _____

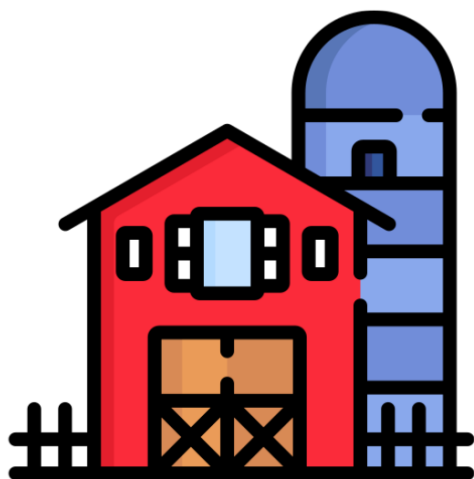
FORGOTTEN FARMERS



How can you support farmers without becoming a farmer?

What do you think Mallory meant when she said to “adopt a producer mindset”?

“It is so easy to be forgotten.”
Have you ever felt forgotten?
What did that feel like?



How did you overcome the time when you felt forgotten?

What was your biggest takeaway from this retiring address?

Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Think back to that time you felt left out. Think of a person or group of people in your school or community that may be easily forgotten. Work with your classmates to come up with a service project that can help honor or serve those that have been forgotten. Use the planning tool below to help you get started with your project. Follow the directions of your teacher for final steps and for putting your plan into action.

GROUP PROJECT PLANNER		Start Date	End Date
Subject		Project	
Objectives		Description	
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
Group Member Name	Task	School Email	
Action Plan		Resources	

Name: _____

KEY: Forgotten Farmers

Part 1

Directions:

Complete the following activities while watching “Forgotten Farmers,” the retiring address of 2021-22 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Mallory White. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/777131643>.

FORGOTTEN FARMERS



Mallory talks about “her people.” Do you have “your people”? Who are those people?

Answers will vary.

What was Mallory’s goal as she traveled that she hoped would help her feel like she was back home?

To meet a farmer in every state she visited

As Mallory traveled, she learned how farmers from all across the land felt forgotten. Why do you think they felt this way?

Answers will vary.

“It isn’t just farming. It is so much more than that.” This statement really bothered Mallory. How does it make you feel to hear agriculture and FFA described in this manner?

Answers will vary.

Mallory reminds us that our words can be powerful. Our words can be inclusive while excluding some at the same time. How can our words be both inclusive and exclusive?

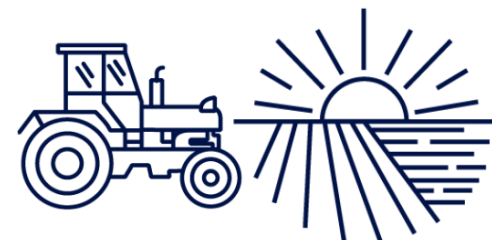
Using words like “but” interjects and can isolate or leave out certain people, places or things.

**“FFA is farming AND science, technology, business and leadership.” —M. White
Come up with your own saying to describe agriculture or FFA.**

Answers will vary.

Name: _____

FORGOTTEN FARMERS



How can you support farmers without becoming a farmer?

Pursuing a career in the agriculture industry that supports production agriculturists like farmers and ranchers

What do you think Mallory meant when she said to “adopt a producer mindset”?

Answers will vary.

**“It is so easy to be forgotten.”
Have you ever felt forgotten?
What did that feel like?**

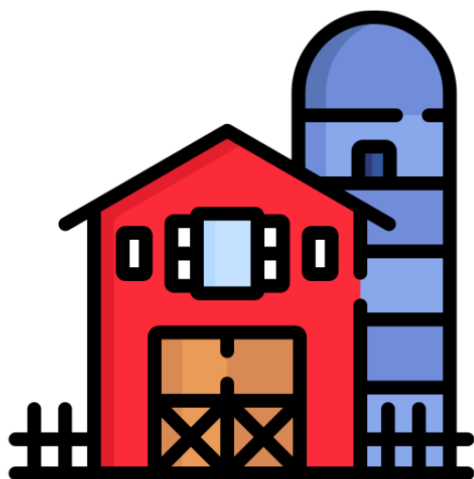
Answers will vary.

How did you overcome the time when you felt forgotten?

Answers will vary.

What was your biggest takeaway from this retiring address?

Answers will vary.



Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Think back to that time you felt left out. Think of a person or group of people in your school or community that may be easily forgotten. Work with your classmates to come up with a service project that can help honor or serve those that have been forgotten. Use the planning tool below to help you get started with your project. Follow the directions of your teacher for final steps and for putting your plan into action.

Example project idea

GROUP PROJECT PLANNER		Start Date	End Date
Subject Agriculture — serving others		Project Honor our school janitors with a special luncheon	
Objectives		Description	
1. Recognize their hard work.		Put on a special meal just for them.	
2. Appreciate all they do for our school.		Provide them with a yummy lunch and dessert served to them by our class.	
3. Include a group that is easily forgotten.		Write them thank you cards to give them at the lunch.	
4.			
5.			
Group Member Name	Task	School Email	
Sally	Invitations and cards		
Tom	Get culinary teacher's permission to use her room.		
Bob	Secure food items needed for lunch.		
Lucy	Secure plates, utensils, cups, etc.		
Action Plan		Resources	
1. Get permission 2. Set date 3. Invite janitors 4. Get needed resources 5. Prepare lunch 6. Serve lunch 7. Clean up		Culinary classroom Food Thank you cards Plates, utensils, napkins, cups, drinks Money to purchase food and other needed materials	