



Section 1: Part 2

Our History: FFA Timeline

Created: June/2016 by the National FFA Organization

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completing these activities, students will...

1. Design a timeline of key National FFA events.
2. Provide examples of two to three key state and local FFA events.

TIME REQUIRED: Interest Approach – 10 minutes; Activity 1 – 25 minutes; Activity 2 – 20 minutes

RESOURCES: "Official FFA Student Handbook," FFA.org and additional resources outlined below.

EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES NEEDED:

1. FFA Timeline Flowchart.
2. FFA Timeline.
3. FFA Timeline Key.
4. NH.Section1.Our History – PowerPoint Presentation.
5. "Official FFA Student Handbook" – one copy per student.
6. Scissors.
7. Colored paper – several strips per group.
8. Internet access for students (*optional*).

THIS QUICK LESSON PLAN WOULD WORK WELL AS:

1. An introduction to FFA/NFA history.
2. An FFA timeline.

THESE ACTIVITIES ARE ALIGNED TO THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS:

AFNR Performance Element

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

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-B.Relationship. Build relationships, work as a team player and appreciate the talents of others.
- FFA.PL-C.Vision. Visualize the future and how to get there.
- FFA.PL-E.Awareness. Understand personal vision, mission, and goals.
- 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 Career Technical Core

- AG1. Analyze how issues, trends, technologies and public policies impact systems in the Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Career Cluster.

Common Core - Reading: Informational Text

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI9-10.3. Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order of which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.

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
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

LESSON PLAN:

1. *Interest Approach:* Have students think through what a timeline of their life might look like. Have them draw out a personal timeline with key dates and events. If the class has extra time, have students color and decorate their timelines to display and hang on the classroom walls.
2. *Activity 1:* Design a timeline for key National FFA events.

- a. Before class begins, cut the timeline below into slips and place them around the room.
 - i. Draw a skeleton timeline from the 1900s to the present on your whiteboard/chalkboard/paper/etc.
 - ii. *Optional:* You can also make a timeline by running a string across the room and having students clip the slips of paper on the string in order of the timeline events.
 - b. Go-Get-It-Moment®
 - i. Tell the students there are 42 slips of paper scattered around the room (or however many slips you have if you make extra timeline events).
 - ii. The goal is to find the slips of paper and place them in the correct order on the timeline.
 - iii. The students who find the slips of paper should stand in the front of the room; those who do not find a slip of paper should return to their seats.
 1. *Optional:* You can also make this activity a competition between student groups. Print a couple of copies of the slips of paper on different colored paper. Have each group choose their own color and find their group's colored slips of paper.
 2. The team with the correct placement of their team's slips of paper on the actual timeline will be the winners.
 - c. Have students take turns reading their slips of paper aloud and then, with the help of their peers, placing them on the timeline outlined on the board or on the string across the room.
 - d. Once all slips have been placed on the board (or string), have students turn to pages 25-30 in "The Official Student Handbook." As the class reviews the FFA timeline, correct any misplaced events.
 - e. Give each student a copy of the handout. to help map key timeline events in notes.
- 3. Activity 2:** Provide examples of two to three key state and local FFA events.
- a. Split the class into groups (one group for each decade your state association or chapter FFA program has been established). Have students research important events that occurred in the state association and/or local chapter program in their assigned decades.
 - b. Provide students with different colored slips of paper to record state and/or local FFA events to add to the timeline. Students will then record the new timeline events in their notes.
- 4. Follow Up:** Give each student a copy of the FFA Timeline worksheet to gauge the understanding of key timeline events in FFA/NFA history.
- 5. Leveling Up:**
- a. Have students research other key national, state, or local events to add to the FFA timeline. World/state/local events can be written on different colored strips of paper.
 - b. Have students analyze key events throughout FFA history and choose one or two events to research and prepare a presentation to present to the class.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

NH.Section1.Our History – PowerPoint Presentation.

"Official FFA Student Handbook" – one copy per student.

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- The Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act (both Smith and Hughes were Georgia Congressmen) established vocational agriculture courses.
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- Virginia Tech agricultural education teacher educators Henry Groseclose, Harry Sanders, Walter S. Newman and Edmund C. Magill organize the Future Farmers of Virginia (FFV) for boys in agriculture classes. The FFV would become the model for the Future Farmers of America.
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- Future Farmers of America established in Kansas City, Mo.
 - Leslie Applegate of New Jersey selected as the first national FFA president.
 - First National FFA Convention held in Kansas City: 33 delegates from 18 states in attendance.
 - First sectional gathering of New Farmers of America members.
 - National blue and corn gold adopted as official colors.
 - Carlton Patton of Arkansas was named first Star Farmer of America.
 - Official FFA Creed adopted.
 - First Official Dress uniform was adopted: dark blue shirt, blue or white pants, a blue cap and yellow tie.
 - Delegates restricted membership to boys only.
 - Blue corduroy jacket adopted as Official Dress.
 - New Farmers of America founded – George Washington Owens, a teacher trainer from Virginia State College, wrote the constitution and bylaws for NFA. However, it was not until this year that the NFA national organization was formed.
 - Future Farmers of America Foundation formed in Washington, D.C.
 - During World War II, FFA members (138,548) served in the Armed Services.
 - First National FFA Band performed at the national convention.
 - FFA Week established during the week of George Washington's birthday.
 - First FFA Chorus and National FFA Talent program held at National FFA Convention.
 - National FFA Supply Service established.
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- First International Exchange Program for FFA members with Young Farmers Club of Great Britain took place.
- President Harry Truman granted a Federal Charter to FFA.
- The U.S. Post Office issued a special stamp to celebrate the 25th anniversary of FFA.
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower was the first president to speak at a National FFA Convention. He was given the FFA Honorary Degree.
- American Star Farmer Joe Moore's photo was on the cover of *Time* magazine.
- New Farmers of America merged with the Future Farmers of America.
- FFA opened membership to girls.
- National FFA Alumni Association founded.
- Fred McClure from the Texas FFA Association was the first African-American elected to a national FFA office.
- Julie Smiley, Washington FFA Association, was the first female elected to a national office.
- Alaska became the last of the 50 states to obtain a national charter.
- Jan Eberly, California FFA Association, became the first female national FFA president.
- Future Farmers of America changed its name to the National FFA Organization to reflect the growing diversity in agriculture.
- The *National Future Farmer* magazine changed its name to *FFA New Horizons*.
- Corey Flournoy, Illinois FFA Association, was the first African-American to be elected national FFA president. He was also the first urban student leader.
- First H.O. Sargent Awards presented.
- The official website for FFA –FFA.org – debuted.
- The National FFA Center in Indianapolis, Ind., dedicated.
- National convention held in Kansas City, Mo., for the last time.
- Javier Moreno elected national president. He became the first person with a native language other than English and the first Puerto Rican elected as national FFA president.
- Dr. Larry Case retired as national advisor after 45 years of service to agricultural education.

- Ram Truck's "So God Made a Farmer" Super Bowl commercial exceeded 18 million views on YouTube; company donated \$1 million to FFA.
 - Sherene Donaldson named first female national FFA executive secretary.
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NAME: _____ DATE: _____ CLASS: _____

FFA Timeline Flowchart

FFA/NFA History

DIRECTIONS:
Map important dates in FFA history in the left column with the event on the right.

FFA Timeline Flowchart – FFA History	
Date	Event

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ CLASS: _____

FFA Timeline

FFA/NFA History

DIRECTIONS:

Answer the questions below.

1. What was the significance of the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act?
2. Set the stage for the first National FFA Convention. Where was it held? Who was there?
What business took place?
3. What happened during the 1929 National FFA Convention?
4. Where was the site of the first National FFA headquarters?
5. In 1950, Congress passed which law to charter FFA (thus opening up federal funds for the organization)?

6. Why did the Future Farmers of America change its name in 1988? What is the organization now called?
7. The National FFA Convention was held in Kansas City, Mo., through 1998. Where did the convention move in 1999 to provide enough space for the growing convention? Where did it move in 2006? Where did it move in 2013? Where did it move in 2016?
8. What act spurred the merger of FFA and NFA?
9. Explain an interesting perspective of the FFA-NFA merger that is discussed in the "Official FFA Student Handbook."
10. Look through the photos from FFA and NFA history. List three photos that are interesting to you. What do they show? What about them interests you?

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ CLASS: _____

FFA Timeline Key

FFA/NFA History

DIRECTIONS:

Answer the questions below.

1. What was the significance of the Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act?
 - a. Provided federal funds to high schools with vocational education classes.**
 - b. Funds allowed youth organizations to begin.**

2. Set the stage for the first National FFA Convention. Where was it held? Who was there? What business took place?
 - a. Baltimore Hotel in Kansas City, Mo.**
 - b. 33 delegates attended from 18 states.**
 - c. Dues were set at \$0.10.**

3. What happened during the 1929 National FFA Convention?
 - a. National blue and corn gold set as official colors.**
 - b. Carlton Patton of Arkansas named first Star Farmer of America.**
 - c. Farm Journal started National Chapter contest.**

4. Where was the site of the first National FFA headquarters?
 - a. Alexandria, Va.**

5. In 1950, Congress passed which law to charter FFA (thus opening up federal funds for the organization)?
 - a. Public Law 740.**

6. Why did the Future Farmers of America change its name in 1988? What is the organization now called?
 - a. To reflect the growing diversity of agriculture.**
 - b. National FFA Organization.**

7. The National FFA Convention was held in Kansas City, Mo., through 1998. Where did the convention move in 1999 to provide enough space for the growing convention? Where did it move in 2006? Where did it move in 2013? Where did it move in 2016?
- a. Louisville, Ky.**
 - b. Indianapolis, Ind.**
 - c. Louisville, Ky.**
 - d. Indianapolis, Ind.**
8. What act spurred the merger of FFA and NFA?
- a. 1964 Civil Rights Act.**
9. Explain an interesting perspective of the FFA-NFA merger that is discussed in the "Official FFA Student Handbook."
10. Look through the photos from FFA and NFA history. List three photos that are interesting to you. What do they show? What about them interests you?

Aligned to the following standards:
CS.01; FFA.PL-B.Relationship; FFA.PL-C.Vision. FFA.PL-E.Awareness; FFA.CS-M.Communication; FFA.CS.N.Decision Making; AG1; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI9-10.3; CRP.04; Communication; Critical Thinking and Problem Solving.