

WHAT ARE SAE IDEA CARDS?



ABOUT:

SAE Idea Cards help students explore SAE opportunities connected to AgExplorer careers. Each card includes a career title, focus area icons, foundational and immersion SAE ideas and key skills—bridging classroom learning with real-world career prep.

ANATOMY OF AN SAE IDEA CARD



Career Title: Identifies the featured career, directly aligned with AgExplorer and the AFNR (Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources) career focus areas

Immersion SAE Ideas: In-depth, career-focused project examples for students ready to engage in long-term, skill-building experiences. These ideas reflect real-world responsibilities associated with the featured career.

Foundational SAE Ideas: Introductory, short-term project examples that help students begin exploring the career while developing essential knowledge and basic skills.

Skills Needed: Lists key skills students gain through the SAEs, supporting career readiness, goal setting and resume building

Focus Area Icons: Visual cues showing which AFNR focus area the career relates to. Use them to sort cards or guide focus area-specific exploration.

Career Image: A real-world photo that represents the featured career. It helps students visualize the work environment and tasks associated with the role, making the career feel more tangible and relatable.

WEBSITE REFERENCE

All cards link to AgExplorer.FFA.org, a valuable resource for exploring over 300 agriculture-related careers in greater depth.



FOCUS AREA ICONS:



ABOUT



Agribusiness Systems: Agribusiness involves supporting agriculture through areas like crop production, equipment, marketing and animal services. Careers in this pathway often appeal to those who enjoy teamwork and technology.

Agricultural Education Systems: Agricultural education careers teach technical ag skills while developing leadership, growth and career readiness. Educators work in schools or outreach roles, helping students explore agriculture through science, technology and policy.



Agricultural Technology Systems: If you enjoy working with technology like coding, data analysis or system design, agricultural technology could be a great fit. This field offers flexible education options and roles across many areas of the industry.

Animal Systems: Animal Systems careers focus on animal health, genetics and nutrition as well as improving the production and processing of meat, poultry, eggs and dairy.



Biotechnology Systems: These careers use biotechnology to improve food, water and fuel, solving global challenges through plant, animal and life science innovations.

Environmental Service Systems: Environmental Service careers focus on pollution control, waste management and public health using science and engineering to improve safety and sustainability.



Food Products and Processing Systems: Food Products and Processing careers focus on food safety, quality and innovation — from improving diets to developing new products and packaging.

Natural Resources Systems: Natural Resources Systems careers protect wildlife and green spaces through fieldwork and research in both rural and urban areas.



Plant Systems: Plant Systems careers focus on growing safe, efficient crops, improving nutrition and conserving resources through advancing technology and biotechnology.

Power, Structural and Technical Systems: Power, Structural and Technical Systems careers use engineering, technology and design to solve agriculture challenges like resource conservation and efficient production.



Skilled Trades Systems: If you enjoy working with your hands and mastering a specific craft, the skilled trades might be a great fit. These careers offer focused training beyond high school and lead to high-demand jobs across many industries.

Sustainability Systems: If you're passionate about protecting the planet and finding smarter ways to use resources, a career in sustainability could be for you. This pathway focuses on creating innovative solutions to make everyday practices more environmentally friendly.

