Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards: CS.05, FFA.PL-A., FFA.PL-C., FFA.PL-E., FFA.PG-I., CCSS.ELA.RI.9-10.2, CCSS.ELA.W.9-10.2, AG5 , CRP.04., CRP.07., CRP.10., CRP.11, AGC09.02

Appendix 7: Cultivate a Career in Agriculture

Part 1

Directions:

Read the article "Cultivate a Career in Agriculture" in the spring/summer 2025 issue of *FFA New Horizons* and answer the questions below.

1. Which of the pathways in agriculture interest you the most? (Circle all that apply.)

Agribusiness Systems	Agricultural Education Systems	Agricultural Technology Systems
Animal Systems	Biotechnology Systems	Environmental Service Systems
Food Products and Processing Systems	Natural Resources Systems	Plant Systems
Power, Structural and Technical Systems	Skilled Trade Systems	Sustainability Systems

2. What is important to you as you consider a future career?
   (List five things in order of importance to you.)
   a. _____
   b. _____
   c. _____
   d. _____
   e. _____

3. Complete the following table for each person and pathway mentioned in the article.

AGRIBUSINESS

Name:	**Things to Consider** *(Choose two for each.)*
Job Title:	**Educational Options:** • •
Summary: *(One or two sentences about the experiences that led them to this career)*	**Career Considerations:** • •
	Potential SAEs and Proficiencies: • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

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Name: _____

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY

Name:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Job Title:	**Educational Options:** • •
Summary: *(One or two sentences about the experiences that led them to this career)*	**Career Considerations:** • •
	Potential SAEs and Proficiencies: • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

SUSTAINABILITY

Name:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Job Title:	**Educational Options:** • •
Summary: *(One or two sentences about the experiences that led them to this career)*	**Career Considerations:** • •
	Potential SAEs and Proficiencies: • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Name:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Job Title:	**Educational Options:** • •
Summary: *(One or two sentences about the experiences that led them to this career)*	**Career Considerations:** • •
	Potential SAEs and Proficiencies: • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

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Name: _____

SKILLED TRADES

Name:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Job Title:	**Educational Options:** • •
Summary: *(One or two sentences about the experiences that led them to this career)*	**Career Considerations:** • •
	Potential SAEs and Proficiencies: • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

4. What was the most helpful piece of career exploration advice you read from any of the five people in the article? *(Write the direct quote below.)*

Why do you find this piece of advice helpful?

5. In what ways are you already preparing for your future career? *(List at least five ways.)*

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

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Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Pick two of the focus areas on AgExplorer.FFA.org not represented in the article and complete the tables below about each focus area. You may also use the following resources to help you complete each table:

- AgCareers.com: https://www.agcareers.com/
- FFA Career and Leadership Development Events: FFA.org/participate/cde-lde/
- SAE Idea Cards: https://FFA.box.com/v/saeideacards
- FFA Proficiency Awards: FFA.org/participate/awards/proficiencies/

Focus Area:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Icon: *(Draw an icon to represent this focus area.)*	**Educational Options:** • •
	Career Considerations: • •
Summary: *(Two or three sentences about this focus area)*	**Potential SAEs and Proficiencies:** • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

Focus Area:	**Things to Consider:** *(Choose two for each.)*
Icon: *(Draw an icon to represent this focus area.)*	**Educational Options:** • •
	Career Considerations: • •
Summary: *(Two or three sentences about this focus area)*	**Potential SAEs and Proficiencies:** • •
	Competitive Events to Try: • •

1. Which area(s) of agriculture are you most interested in? Why?

2. How could your agriculture class and/or involvement in FFA help prepare you for any career?

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Part 3

Directions:

Use the template below to create a plan for you to begin to prepare for a career while you're still in school. Choose any career you are interested in and answer each of the questions below.

Self-Assessment:

Interests/Hobbies:

-
-
-

Strengths:

-
-
-

Areas for Growth:

-
-
-

Career Exploration:

Use any career site you would like to find the following information about a career you're interested in.
(Examples of career sites you could use include O-NET: https://www.onetonline.org/, My Next Move: https://www.mynextmove.org/ or Career One Stop: https://www.careeronestop.org/.)

Career of Interest:	
Job Description:	
Average Salary:	
Education/Training Required:	

What interests you the most about this career?

Academic Preparation:

List three courses you are taking or have already taken that would help prepare you for this career.

1.
2.
3.

List three courses you could take in the future (high school, college, trade school) that would help you prepare for this career.

1.
2.
3.

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Name: _____

Skill Development:

Use the table below to identify three skills you would need to be successful in your selected career.
Then list two activities or steps you could complete to help develop these skills.

Career Skill:	Activities to Develop This Skill:
	1. 2.
	1. 2.
	1. 2.

Extracurricular Activities:

Identify at least three extracurricular activities that align with your career interests and would help you on your path.
(These could be clubs/organizations to join, volunteer opportunities or other activities.)

1.
2.
3.

Which of the activities you listed above do you believe would be the most interesting and helpful to you? Why?

Networking and Mentorship:

It can be helpful to build connections with professionals in your field of interest. These individuals could provide job shadowing opportunities, serve as potential mentors or give you advice on how to get started in this career.
Brainstorm a list of people you know or know of who could be in your professional network as you pursue this career. If you don't know anyone in this field, brainstorm a list of places or organizations where you could meet people in this field and begin to make connections.

-
-
-
-

Reflection and Getting Started:

1. What are two questions you have about this career?
   a.
   b.
2. What do you think your first (or next) step should be in preparing for this career?

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