



**Course:** Animal Science I

## **Unit:** *Careers in Animal Science*

### **Unit Objectives:**

- A. Identify career clusters within the animal science industry
- B. Recognize trends in the animal industry and how they affect the job market
- C. Develop a career plan

### **Interest Approach:**

Ask students to give a guess of how many people (careers) were involved in providing the food they ate for their last meal. Take a few guesses and then show slide #2 from the PowerPoint with the beginnings of a meal career web. The example is only a beginning and many more jobs were necessary than those listed on the example. Divide the class into 6 groups. Give each group a large sheet of butcher paper and some markers. Give students a specified amount of time to create a web representing all of the careers that played a part in providing them the meal their group is assigned. Once the time is up, have students count how many careers they came up with. In this unit, students will learn about the career opportunities within the animal industry.

### **Objective A: Identify career clusters within the animal science industry**

- Using notes & PowerPoint slides, teach and illustrate objective to students
- Career spotlight video clips can be found on the 'Utah Ag in the Classroom' YouTube site
  - Show video clips as you go through each career cluster, or at the end. Links can be found in the (notes section of each PowerPoint slide.
  - <http://www.youtube.com/user/UtahAgClassroom>
- The PBS video below provides a good idea of career opportunities in urban or small scale agriculture.  
<http://www.pbs.org/video/2276862085/>
- **Optional Video: Mike Rowe's Keynote address at 2009 National FFA Convention**
  - Mike Rowe, host of Discovery Channel's "Dirty Jobs" speaks to FFA members about choosing a (career and being happy in whatever you choose)
  - Pass out movie worksheet.
  - Speech currently available on several websites:
    - <http://www.mikeroweworks.com/2009/10/2009-ffa/> (best sound and video quality)
    - Also available on SchoolTube and YouTube

### **Objective B: Recognize trends in the animal industry and how they affect the job market**

- Using notes & PowerPoint slides, teach and illustrate objective to students

- **Activity: Trends in the News**
  - Before printing worksheet, edit the list of trends to be sure they are up to date, as well as to match the interests and demographics of the agriculture in your area
  - Pass worksheet out to students and provide internet access where they can search for news and newspaper articles.
  - Worksheet is be updated to include Urban Ag: Students will research things like buy local, urban agriculture, urban animal production, etc. and fill out worksheet on them.)

### **Objective C: Develop a career plan**

- Using notes & PowerPoint slides, teach and illustrate objective to students
- **Assignment: Career Card Assignment**
  - Pass out assignment sheet and go over expectations
  - Provide computer access for students to research their career and make a career card
  - Emphasize that there is an option to focus on urban/non-traditional agriculture
- **Assignment: Discovering Careers Through CDE's & SAE's**
  - Pass out assignment sheet
  - Provide CDE descriptions to students to complete assignment
    - Available in FFA student manual
    - Also available on [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)
  - Discuss various SAE opportunities related to careers in agriculture, urban agriculture specifically. The last page of this document contains a list of possible SAE options.
    - examples of urban ag SAE's could include: CSA's, marketing to local restaurants, raising alternative animals (rabbits, ducks, etc.), exploring an urban farm

### **Unit Review:**

### **Unit Quiz**

## **Possible Urban/Small Scale Agriculture SAEs**

- Work in a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Farm
- Raising an alternative animal (rabbits, ducks, etc.)
- Tour a restaurant that buys and sells local food
- Visit an urban or small scale farm
- Work for an urban or small scale farm
- Go to a farmer's market and interview those selling food there
- Raise your own products and sell them at a farmer's market
- Perform experiments to determine the best way to grow plants in locations with little amounts of space
- Tour a greenhouse
- Build a greenhouse and raise plants in it
- The list goes on and on!