

Agriscience and Technology

8th Grade

Course Syllabus 2013-2014

Instructor: Ms. Sarah Joseph

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(540) 298 – 1228

<http://blogs.rockingham.k12.va.us/ems/> - Elkton Middle School Website

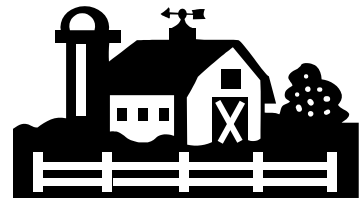
Welcome to the 8th grade Agriscience and Technology course. This course is designed to assist students in exploring agriculture as it relates to all areas. Students will have the opportunity to develop an understanding of leadership, communication, the importance of agriculture, horticulture, and key terms and topics in agriculture. In this agriscience class we will spend time on agriculture topics such as animal science, horticulture, leadership, technology, mechanics, forestry, FFA history, and much more.

Course Competencies:

- Becoming Oriented to Agriscience Technology
- Developing Leadership Skills
- Introducing Supervised Agricultural Experience
- Identifying New Technologies in Agriculture/Agriscience
- Experimenting in Agriculture/Agriscience
- Understanding International Agriculture
- Understanding Agricultural Business
- Using Hand Tools and Agricultural Power Equipment
- Exploring Companion/Small Animals
- Exploring Natural Resources
- Exploring Horticultural Sciences

Grading System:

Assessments		60%
Projects	25%	
Tests/Quizzes	20%	
Homework	5%	
Classwork	10%	
Participation		20%
Notebook		20%



Each student will begin the nine weeks with 100% under participation. If there are behavioral issues throughout the nine week period the points will be deducted from the participation grade.

Students will be required to keep a 3 ring binder with their notes and handouts for this class. At the end of each nine weeks students will receive a notebook grade for work that is in their notebook. The binder should have three sections: Bell work, Notes/Handouts, and Graded Assignments that have been returned.

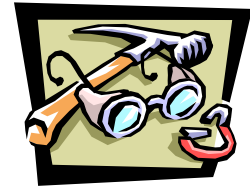
Students are required to bring to class daily: binder, pencils, paper, and assignments that are due.

Expectations and Rules:

- Be on time and ready to learn
- Be prepared
- Pay attention – Follow directions
- Be respectful – Use manners, Raise your hand, Keep hands to yourself
- Be responsible – Work hard, Only YOU can control your actions
- Cell phones will only be used for instructional purposes in this class
- Be POSITIVE – Have Fun!

Shop Safety:

Parents, it is important that you realize that your child will be entering the shop; only after completing and successfully passing the safety tests for the shop area. Each student will take a written test and perform a hands on assessment. If there are concerns with your child being in the shop area please do not hesitate to contact me.



Students will not be allowed to enter the shop until the attached sheet has been returned signed by both the student and parent/guardian.

Additional Opportunities:

All students enrolled in an Agricultural Education course have the opportunity to join the FFA!!! FFA members will have many opportunities to participate in exciting events during the school year. Members will develop leadership skills, TRAVEL, be part of a team, serve the community, and have a GREAT time!! The FFA brings out the best in all students and encourages premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Students will have the opportunity to participate in contests including poultry, livestock, forestry, dairy, public speaking, stockman's and MANY more. Announcements will be made during class and on the morning announcements regarding practice and contests dates when these events occur.



Visit the Elkton Middle School FFA Website at www.emsffa.weebly.com for more details about upcoming and past events.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I have already discussed these items with your child; however, I would appreciate it if you would review the syllabus with him or her. Please sign and return the form below letting me know that you are informed of the information for this class. This will be your child's first homework grade. Thank you for your support. I look forward to working with you and your child. If you ever have any questions please contact me through email or by calling the school. Let's have a great year!!

Ms. Sarah Joseph

After reading the requirements, rules, and class information please sign the form below indicating that the parent and student understand the information.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Email (optional) _____

Would you like to receive emails regarding upcoming FFA events and activities?

_____ Yes

_____ No

Other comments or concerns that Ms. Joseph should know:
