



WCPS Course Syllabus Warren County Middle School



Welcome to Agriculture Class!

We are very excited to have you in our program this year! Get ready for a class full of *excitement* and *exploration*, but come *eager* and ready to be *engaged*! In our class, we will explore topics including *Leadership, Animal Science, Plant Science, Mechanics, Natural Resources* and *more!*

This is a hands-on class. We will be building projects and get our hands dirty. We will be exploring Virginia and World Agriculture. We will create posters, journals, and learn life skills!

We will have many *unique and fun opportunities* in Ag, but *it all depends on your choices to participate and be a positive member of our class!* *Come to class prepared, with a good attitude,* and *ready to meet expectations!* By doing those three things, you can expect to have an *exceptional experience in Agriculture!*

For class everyday, you should bring:

- Pencil
- Charged Chromebook
- Sweatshirt/Coat

We look forward to getting to know you this year and growing with you in Agriculture!
If you have additional questions please reach out via email to your Ag Teacher!

Ms. Lynne Phillips
WCMS Agriculture Teacher
FFA Advisor
sphillips@wcps.k12.va.us
540-635-2194 x 35300

If you would like to donate items, scan the QR code to find our classroom wishlist.

THIS IS NOT REQUIRED.



Our classroom always needs:

- Rabbit Pellets
- Paper Towels
- Timothy or Alfalfa Hay
- Tissues
- Pencils
- Hand sanitizer
- Wood for projects

LINK: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/bIUyoAn?ref_=wl_share

PLEASE RETURN THE

- SYLLABUS
- FFA WAIVER
- ANIMAL HANDLING PERMISSION

SIGNED BACK TO MS. PHILLIPS by AUGUST 16, 2024.



WCPS Course Syllabus

Warren County Middle School

Introduction to Agriscience – 8009 – 6th Grade (9 Weeks)

Course Description: Middle school students develop an awareness of the relationships between agriculture and science. Major concepts covered in the course include awareness of agriculture, the world of work, agribusiness careers, human relations, and scientific principles applied in agriculture. exploring science as it relates to agriculture and developing an understanding of human relations, communication, the importance of agriculture to the economy, and key scientific terms related to the field of agriculture.

Classroom Expectations

- Be Respectful...of yourself, your peers, your teachers, and this classroom/shop.
- Be Responsible
- Be Safe
- Be Trustworthy
- Have Appropriate and Proper Classroom Etiquette

Class Materials

- Pencil/Pen
- Chromebook (charged and ready to use)
- Sweatshirt/Coat (outdoor activities)
- Your child will keep their folder in class with all the coursework. If they miss days, they are expected to complete missing assignments at home, or afterschool.

Negative behavior or failure to comply with classroom expectations will result in *IMMEDIATE disciplinary action*. Due to the nature of this class involving equipment, live animals, and other hazardous/dangerous materials, unsafe behavior *WILL NOT BE TOLERATED*.

Certain behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Harmful and disrespectful behavior toward another student or teacher
- Fighting/roughhousing
- Alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or weapons
- Putting yourself or others in danger by not following shop/garden rules and procedures

Contact Ms. Phillips

Please contact me if you'd like to discuss your child's progress in class! I encourage parents to reach out, and please proactively follow along with your child on Google Classroom (instructions to come!)

I can be reached by email at sphillips@wcps.k12.va.us or

via school phone at 540-635-2194 ext. 35300

PERIOD	TIME	CLASS
Period 1	9:00-10:21	Planning
Period 2	10:25-11:41	7th Grade - Agriscience Exploration
Period 3	12:49-2:05	6th Grade - Introduction to Agriscience
Period 4	2:09-3:30	8th Grade - Ag and Technology

LABORATORY SETTINGS AND PROCEDURES

Warren County Middle School has a variety of laboratory opportunities that agriculture students will be able to participate in. Examples include: woodshop, vegetable garden and the outdoor classroom; as well as any field trip experiences that we'll participate in. Since rules, expectations and procedures are different in each setting, we ask that students pay strict attention to what those are and their surroundings at all times.

Expectations for Lab Areas and Field Trips

- All classroom and school rules will be enforced while in mechanics or outdoor land lab.
- You may only use equipment if directed to do so.
- Act appropriately while within the facility.
- Directions will be given in a timely manner.
- Follow all directions that are given to you.

Dress Attire:

- Long pants
- Closed toed shoes
- Nothing less than short sleeve shirts
- No baggy or loose fitting clothing
- No baggy or loose fitting clothing
- Hair tied back



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Acknowledgement of Understanding

**sign and return to THIS PAGE to Ms. Phillips, Agriscience Teacher by*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2024

By signing below you agree to the following:

My child and I both have read and understand the expectations of this class and will do our best to meet those expectations.

- My child and I are aware of the course content and the nature of the activities. Due to this, we are disclosing to the Ag Teacher any allergies or conditions the department should be aware of.
- My child and I are aware there will be working with animals, plants, machinery, hand tools and other agricultural materials.
- FFA dues are \$25 for each student for the year. Extensive trips may require additional travel or meal money if not sponsored. Agriculture class and FFA will offer field trips, career development events, and countless opportunities for your child to expand upon their classroom experience.

Financial Assistance

If there are any issues with paying the fee, please contact the Agricultural Education Instructor and FFA Advisor to seek financial assistance. We are committed to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate in the FFA program.

For any questions regarding the dues or the t-shirt, please contact the Agricultural Education Instructor and FFA Advisor.

All students enrolled in this class will have the opportunity to participate in WCMS FFA Chapter.

If there are any questions or comments concerning this course or your child's academic well-being, please feel free to contact me via email at sphillips@wcps.k12.va.us

Student Name (printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name (printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent Phone: _____

Student Allergies: _____

Other Conditions to be aware of: _____

Notes to Teacher:



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PERMISSION TO HANDLE CLASSROOM ANIMALS

Animals are used in the Agriculture classes at Warren County Middle School as an effective teaching aid for the students. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes humane treatment of living creatures.

The agriculture classroom maintains rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rabbits, dogs, cats and various aquatic animals. On occasion, the students will have access to livestock animals like chickens, goats, cows, horses, donkeys, pigs, etc. While every effort is made to teach the students how to properly hold and care for the animals, there are occasions where the animals may bite, scratch or kick. Students should follow the following safety precautions to avoid injury and to ensure a good environment for the class:

1. Never horseplay around the animals.
 - a. This causes them to be frightened, often resulting in undue stress and creates animals that bite.
2. Never use the animals as a means of scaring another person.
3. Do not feed the animals without Ms. Phillips's permission.
4. Animals may only be handled with **Ms. Phillips's** permission - they **MAY NOT** come out on days when there is a substitute in the classroom.
5. Make sure to handle each animal gently and carefully in the appropriate way for the individual animal.
6. Always make sure that cages and pens are closed properly to prevent escape.
7. Do NOT put your fingers in or near the mouths of any animal.
8. Do NOT tease the animals with food or objects.
9. Do not handle animals near the computers or modules.
10. Keep fingers, pencils, erasers, paperclips, etc. out of the animal's face and enclosures.
11. Remember, if you are handling an animal and it makes a mess, you are responsible for cleaning up.
 - a. Do not leave animal feces around the room or outside.
12. Respect the animals and treat them compassionately to ensure your safety as well as that of the animals.

Please sign and return the bottom of this form as soon as possible in order to handle the animals in the small animal care class.

Student Name: _____

Class Period: _____

I have read and understand the rules for handling the animals and I agree to follow these rules whenever I come in contact with the agriculture classroom animals. I understand that failure to follow these rules will result in the loss of all animal privileges. Furthermore, I understand that extreme disregard of these rules may result in additional consequences which may include after school detention or removal from the classroom.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature

I have read the form on handling animals in the agriculture classroom and I understand that the animals are a privilege in the classroom and that if improperly handled, the privilege may be revoked. I further understand that animals are unpredictable and that even when handled properly, they may bite, scratch or kick. Knowing this, I give permission for my child to handle the animals in the agriculture classroom.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____ Email _____