Activity 1. Career Exploration & Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amazing Career Maze - Reflection: What is the significance or importance on how the maze activity relates to your career plan?</th>
<th>That I made it to be the best my life could be. And nobody’s life would be the same as mine. It is significant because I could change it or make it a lot different. Bumps, curves and obstacles.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Think about a career that you are interested in that you would like to learn more about and one that you are interesting in pursuing. Complete the following based on this career.

- **Selected Related Career Field**: Veterinarian
- **Selected Area Business**: Rodeo Vet
- **Area Career Contact Person Name**: 
- **Area Career Contact Person Email Address**: 
- **Area Career Contact Business Mailing Address**: 
Insert a picture of your completed 2 page Career Profile. Be sure to stretch it out so that it can be read.

The Career Profile activity sheet can be found on the Ag Explorer Implementation Guide (pages 8 & 9).
Career Profile

DIRECTIONS:
Utilize AgExplorer (located on the explore page of My Journey and at FFA.org/AgExplorer) to research your chosen career. You will use the information to complete a social media profile for your career of choice.

Cover Photo: (Setting/Location of Career)

Profile Picture

Name of Career:

Career Focus Area:

Friends: (Who would I work with? What careers are related?)

Interests/Groups: (What professional organizations are useful for me?)

Basic Information: (Where do I work? What companies could I work for/with?)

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FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.
Career Profile, Continued

Schooling: (What education is needed for this career?)

Status Update: (Why is this career the coolest?)

About: (What do I do? What are my responsibilities?)

Aligned to the following standards:
CS.05; PFA.PL-A; PFA.PL-C; PFA.PL-E; PFA.PL-F; PFA.PL-G; PFA.PG-1;
PFA.CS-M; PFA.CS-N; AGS; AGS09.02; CCSS.EL.9-10.4; CCSS.W.9-10.2;
CCSS.WHST.9-10.4; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.07; CRP.08;
CRP.10; CRP.11

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Activity 2. Employability Skills for College & Career Readiness

In the box below, type the first draft of your email to your Area Career contact person. Changes will be made to this draft to make it your final version which will be emailed to the contact person. Your email will list 5 questions you are asking the person to answer. You must ask the person what skills are required to succeed in the career field AND what the starting wage or salary is.

{Subject: Career Field Questions}

[Career Field Person’s Name],

I have an assignment for school to learn about a career field I have an interest in. Part of that assignment is to contact someone in that career field, which is why I am emailing you. I am interested in being a veterinarian for rodeos. Would you please answer answer the following questions? I would appreciate your reply by Tuesday, April 30.

1. What skills are important to get a career as a veterinarian or working with rodeos?
2. What is the starting wage or salary for a person in this career field.
3. What type of classes do you recommend me taking? What college degree would be helpful?
4. What are the typical working hours?
5. What are the working conditions for this career? What are the health and safety hazards or concerns of this career?

Thank you for your time. I appreciate your help.

[Student’s Name]

Copy & Paste the reply you received from your Career Field contact person.

Hi [Student’s Name],

I would be happy to answer some questions for you.

1. What skills are important to get a career as a veterinarian or working with rodeos?

   Communication (this is probably one of the most important), active listening, technical skills related to the field, organization, computer skills, and additional skills associated with working with rodeo stock and personnel (this may be based on experience too).

2. What is the starting wage or salary for a person who is a vet?
Yearly salary depends on what career path is chosen within veterinary medicine. If you are referring to yearly salary related to a veterinarian in private practice, it can range from $65,000-$100,000+. These figures depend on experience, type of private practice (small animal, mixed, or large animal), and location.

3. What type of classes do you recommend me taking? What college degree would be helpful?

I completed a bachelor’s degree in Animal Science. I earned a certain number of credit hours in specific subjects which were pre-requisites in order to apply to veterinary school. This took 4 years. High school- science, agriculture (especially if wanting to pursue mixed animal/large animal practice), computer, and communication classes are highly recommended. College classes can be major specific but you can major in Chemistry, Biology, Animal science, Veterinary science to take classes that are required to apply to veterinary school. A college degree is not actually required to apply to veterinary school. Certain classes and number of credit hours is required for application. It is highly recommended to have a degree just in case one is not admitted into veterinary school.

4. What are the typical working hours?

Most clinics likely have a 40 -50 hour work week depending on hours the business is open and how many veterinarians are employed at the practice. It also depends if there is after hours care that is offered (ie. Emergency service). There may be more working hours for veterinarians in charge of veterinary care for rodeo stock because of travel.

5. What are the working conditions for this career? What are the health and safety hazards or concerns of this career?

Working conditions vary. Working outdoors exposes a veterinarian to weather extremes on top of working with livestock in pastures and in working chutes. Health hazards include zoonotic diseases (illnesses that humans can get from handling/working with animals and their urine/feces/blood etc. ), exposure to medication/products that can cause disease/injury to humans, and health problems that develop from prolonged extreme working conditions (such as back problems, hearing loss, stress/anxiety). Safety hazards can exist in situations where working conditions are not ideal (no head gate or chute to properly restrain livestock) and/or improper restraint when handling a small animal patient (a bite or scratch).

I hope this answers your questions. Let me know if I can be any further assistance.

Top 5 - What do you think are the top 5 most important facts you received from the email about the career?
| Communication - active listening, technical skills related to the field, organization, computer skills, and additional skills associated with working with rodeo stock and personnel | zoonotic diseases (illnesses that humans can get from handling/working with animals and their urine/fece/s/blood etc.) | $65,000-$100,000 | Chemistry, Biology, Animal science, Veterinary science to take classes that are required to apply to veterinary school | 40-50 hour work week |

Insert two photographs: one of your hand written thank you AND one of your addressed envelope.
### Activity 3. Personal Financial Management - Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Type/Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Monthly Salary</td>
<td>$4062.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car Payment</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Insurance</td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline (cAr)</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Maintenance</td>
<td>20 -75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*pets</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent/ Mortgage</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1950</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4062.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 Notes:
To figure **monthly salary**, divide salary by 12 months then multiply by 75% for taxes & withholdings.
To figure **monthly wage**, multiply your pay rate by 40 hours and then multiply by 4 weeks then multiply by 75% for taxes.

### Activity 4. Workplace Safety

Top 5 Safety Guidelines - Using the information from your received email or from the internet, decide what are 5 safety and/or health considerations that your career need to be aware of. Put 1 consideration each of the 5 cells below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rabies and other diseases</th>
<th>Gloves - blood and feces</th>
<th>Long Clothing - Scratching and</th>
<th>Comfy clothing (moveable)</th>
<th>Lifting the animals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Safety Poster: Using what you know about the safety of your career, create a poster that would educate other people about what people in that career need to do to be safe. Think of it as a poster that would be displayed in the place of business. Keep in mind that many safety posters have people on it with information that describes how to be safe. Insert your poster or a photo of your poster in the cell below.

*This is not a student example poster.

Activity 5: Agriculture Literacy *This is not a student example web or chart.

Using the the “Drawing” tool, located under the “Insert” menu above, create a Career Web that shows how your selected career connects with at least 5 other agriculture careers. Place your drawing in the cell below.
In the cell below, explain **WHY** you think your career connects to each of the careers you connected it to.

*A veterinarian’s customers will mostly be the producers. A vet will need to purchase his/her supplies from the pharma rep and equipment dealers. A vet would learn new trends, outbreaks, or about new vaccines and medications from health researchers or from the government agencies. A vet will also need to follow the guidelines set by the government agencies.*

Listed below are the 9 agricultural systems. For EACH of the 9 systems, explain how your career might connect or rely on each of those agricultural systems. You may use [https://www.agexplorer.com/](https://www.agexplorer.com/) to learn more about each of the systems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural Systems</th>
<th>Career Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agribusiness</td>
<td>Vets need to know how to operate their clinic as a business to make a profit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td>Vets know how to treat sick or injured animals and how to maintain healthy animals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology</td>
<td>Biotechnology creates vaccines, researches nutrition, and develops new reproductive methods that vets might be trained on how to perform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Services</td>
<td>Vets need to follow environmental guidelines to dispose of waste and deceased animals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Products &amp; Processing</td>
<td>Vets play a role in ensuring that healthy meat enters the food system for human consumption.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>Vets need to provide clean water to the animals that they care for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant</td>
<td>If there weren’t plants for animals to eat, then there would be no need for vets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power, Structural &amp; Technical</td>
<td>Vets use restraining devices (powered and hand tools) and buildings to do their work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Education</td>
<td>Vets need to attend several years of education including shadowing and observation hours. Vets can also provide learning opportunities for students who want to become vets.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Activity 6: Reflection

In the cell below, using complete sentences and thoughts, answer the following questions:

- Is this a career that you are interested in pursuing? Why or why not?
- What did you learn about the career from the above activities that you found the most interesting? Explain why they were interesting.
- What can you do between now and high school graduation to be better prepared for this career?
- What are you willing to commit to doing during high school in order to be prepared for this career?

*Put your answer in this cell.*