

Abstract

As a teacher in an elective course, such as agriscience, it is often necessary to provide reasoning as to the importance of the material that is offered to students who take the class. Administration, parents and stakeholders need to know what a course has to offer the students who are enrolled in it. Without support from the previously mentioned individuals, a program cannot succeed. This tool was designed, with assistance and input from current teachers in Marion County, Florida, to help advocate for agriscience classes and programs in secondary education.

The purpose was to create a handout that could be used to compile data about a specific group of students in an agriscience course. The goal was that it could be utilized to support as well as maintain a secondary agricultural education program. It should show the positive impact that an agriscience course can have on student standardized test scores. While it was specifically designed for the FCAT, the document can be altered to accommodate other standardized tests or EOC exams. The goal is to look at student scores before taking the agriscience course and compare the scores with the same set of student scores after the course is completed. Because of the infiltration of core subjects such as math, science, and reading in agriscience curriculum, student test scores in these subjects should increase after successful completion of the agriscience course.

The document was designed to be convenient and user friendly. When completed, the document can be printed and used as an informational handout for school administration, parents, etc. It can be used for various situations such as validating the importance of a secondary agriscience program or increasing student enrollment numbers within the program. This document is beneficial because it is simple but also effective. Classroom data can be easily obtained and inserted into the document. After a few calculations, results can be compiled to show increases in student performance. Overall, it is visually appealing and it highlights the most important information.

The Impact of an Agriscience Course on Student FCAT Scores

Purpose:

This document was designed as a convenient way to compile data that can be used to support and maintain a secondary agricultural education program. It should show the positive impact that an agriscience course can have on student FCAT scores. When complete, the document can be printed and used as an informational flyer for school administration, parents, etc. It can be used for various situations such as validating the importance of a secondary agriscience program or increasing student enrollment numbers within the program. This document is beneficial because it is simple and effective. Classroom data can be easily obtained and inserted into the document. After a few calculations, results can also be obtained to show any increases in student performance on the FCAT. As a handout, it is visually appealing and it highlights the most important information.

Directions:

On the first page of the document, fill in the title with the teacher's name, the school name, and the name of the course that is being used for data collection. Fill in the class demographics about the specific class. If there are multiple sections of the same class, choose one section for each document. All data for the class demographics can be found on Performance Matters through the Marion County School Board portal.

The second page includes data from before the students took the course and after the students took the course. You will fill in the document accordingly using specific date from the class. Once again, if there are multiple sections of the same class, choose only one for this document. It should be the same class section that you used on the first page. All data for page two can be found on Performance Matters through the Marion County School Board portal.

Once page two is filled out in its entirety, use the date to complete the analysis/results section on page one of the document. You will need to look at each test individually in order to compare the scores from before and after. First, determine if the students average math scores were higher, lower, or remained the same. Next determine how many students passed or did not pass the math test after taking the agriscience course. Were there more, less, or the same amount of students who passed? Were there more, less or the same amount of students who didn't pass? Continue filling out the results for the science and reading portions of the test.

Printing:

The document can be printed double sided. It should be printed in color. For increased quality and less color show through, it should be printed on a mid to heavy weight paper.