

An Foundational Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE)

A foundational project is a great SAE opportunity for all students in agricultural education!

A key objective is advancement into another SAE!

Aspects Of A Foundational SAE

The key is your investment of time in an environment where you..

- 1- Explore a career or plan for a career
- 2- Gain employability skills
- 3- Gain an experience in personal financial management
- 4- Learn about workplace safety
- 5- Learn a new skill or gain knowledge to potentially begin an SAE



Factors To Develop A Quality SAE

1. Prepare a detailed SAE plan
2. Regularly document time
3. Review your records annually; Work with your supervisor (ex: parent, teacher, employer) to measure project results



Step 1: Prepare An SAE Plan

A **Lesson Plan** is a common educational tool used by teachers to define educational goals and how to measure success



An **SAE Plan** assists you in managing your project and is used by supervisors to evaluate your progress

Your SAE Plan Should Include:

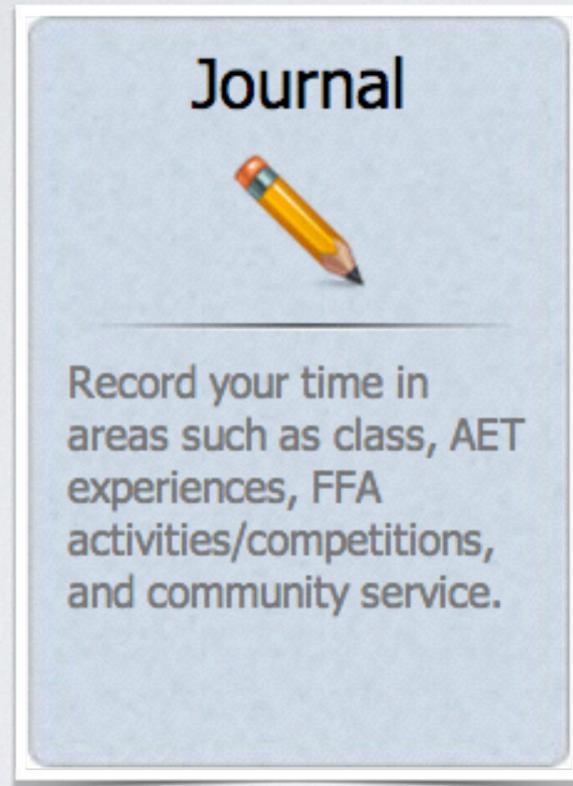
1. A short summary of the project, area of interest, planned starting/ending dates, invested time and other general information about your planned experience
2. Details of your planned investment of time
3. Who will supervise your project and how supervision will take place?
4. How will you measure your results? Potentially what you hope to learn.



Step 2: Document Your Experience



Documenting your Foundational SAE in your AET record book involves:



- A. Recording "Journal Entries," detailing a date and time (hrs/min.)
- B. Includes "your experience" and "how it connected to your project"
- C. Photos are common to also record as they "show" your involvement



A. Examples Of Time In Your Journal

All SAE projects require time outside of normal class time. Foundational SAEs may involve class time, so record those as well. Examples of time-related entries include:

1. *Exploring careers using FFA.org's Ag Explorer or other areas that align to your interest*
2. *Taking a SAT preparation class to improve their scores to attend college*
3. *Developing a personal budget and tracking your results*
4. *Reviewing safety practices and developing a new safety plan based on your results*
5. *Attending a welding certification program to potentially gain employment or get better pay*



Step 3: Review...Reflect On Your Learning Experience

Your efforts could potentially include:

- In your record book, you develop an annual summary of your project
- Meeting with your supervisor/teacher to review your efforts
- Review your SAE records for a grade
- Reviewing your experience and seeking to gain more responsibilities or how this experience can develop a new project
- Use your foundational experience to grow into other more detailed SAE projects.



Have An SAE In This Area? Let's See An Example

You become interested in veterinary medicine after learning about the topic in class. You develop a plan to contact a local veterinarian and develop a plan to job shadow (career exploration), not for pay but rather just to learn more about the business.

YES, you have a plan

You begin your records and record your time (1) researching the industry, (2) meeting with the veterinarian to review my activities and (3) developing a summary report

YES, you're documenting your experience

Your teacher uses your record book as a class grade and has your develop a final report relating to my first-year of the SAE experience.

YES, supervised and reflected on to improve



Have An SAE In This Area? Let's See An Example

Through your horticulture class, you decide you would like to see what it would take to be in the Master Gardener program and attend a training course and maybe even seek employment through gaining new knowledge (Ag Literacy)

YES, you have a plan

You begin your records and record your time planning and attending the course, which occurs outside your normal class time as well as inside the normal class time signing up for the event and reviewing materials.

YES, you're documenting your experience

Your teacher uses your record book as a class grade and has you develop a final report relating to your SAE experience for others to learn from.

YES, supervised and reflected on to improve



Have An SAE In This Area? Let's See An Example

Your interest is in agricultural mechanics and fabrication. You attend a Lincoln welding certification class to increase your knowledge and gain training that may assist in you in obtaining career opportunity.

YES, you have a plan

You begin your records and record your time to complete pre-course materials and time of the training.

YES, you're documenting your experience

Your teacher uses your record book as a class grade. Also, you work with your teacher to seek employment that relates to the skills you learned in the certification program.

YES, supervised and reflected on to improve



Have An SAE In This Area? Let's See An Example

Your interest is in becoming more financial literate, so you decide to develop an 6-month budget to track the cost of caring for your dog and proper care/nutrition.

YES, you have a plan

You begin your records and record your time to take care of the dog, reviewing information online about nutrition and care for a dog the same age.

YES, you're documenting your experience

Your teacher uses your record book as a class guide. Also, you work with your teacher to develop a dog care budget and a summary of nutrition. A result for this project could be to develop a new service dog SAE project with a local sponsor.

YES, supervised and reflected on to improve

