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**Students...
 Can you "map" your
 interests to a career?**

LEARN today, EARN tomorrow, SHAPE your future NOW www.ManateeACT.com

Preparing for Success from A to Z

From Athletics to Zoology, students in Braden River High School's (BRHS) Science Technology and Health Academy explore various career pathways as they prepare for the world of work. The Academy, under the direction of lead teachers Mrs. Deb Barry and Mrs. Roxanne Cappelin, maintains a strong academic foundation supported by relevant electives promoting hands-on activities, experience, and career exploration.

This year, Academy teachers are employing a learning strategy known as *performance mapping*. Teachers work together to tie in multiple subjects and support cross-referencing units.

"For example," Roxanne explained, "agriculture students may want to sell plants as a fundraiser. By using the performance mapping strategy, we would know that in English class, students would learn how to write a business plan, the first step in helping them achieve their goals. The business plan would carry over into algebra class, where students would then calculate the financial details of the plan. The horticulture class would work on selling the plants and maintaining documentation using spreadsheets and graphs to reflect costs, overhead, and profit."

"Performance Mapping promotes teambuilding within the Academy and strengthens the student's comprehension of the curriculum," Deb said. "It encourages students to see the relevance of core academics while igniting their true passion to pursue a career that will allow them to contribute positively in the world."

The BRHS Science Technology and Health Academy staff work together to engage and motivate students. The Academy's dynamic curriculum makes the connection between today's education and a successful, productive career in the future. Academy member and senior agriscience student Nicole Unger agrees.

"When I took the Agriscience Foundations class with Mrs. Barry it opened up a whole new way of life," Nicole said. "Now I realize how everything connects to agriculture. Ag is awesome!"

Nicole serves as the BRHS FFA chapter president. FFA, a national organization dedicated to leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education, offers students the opportunity to compete with peers in various categories. Nicole's plans include running for an FFA State officer position, attending State College of Florida, and then the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Science.

"Working with animals is my favorite part of the day," Nicole explained. "It's exciting and you are always doing something different."

Whether Academy students are focusing on classroom academics, working in the school's greenhouses or animal pens, volunteering in community service projects, or competing nationally through FFA, they're gaining an education that can't be beat!



BRHS FFA President Nicole Unger receives the Manatee County Farm Bureau Leadership Award.



Science Technology and Health Academy co-lead teachers Roxane Cappellini (left) and Deb Barry. The FFA display keeps students informed.

JOB



Veterinarian
 Salary: \$62,900 – \$168,000
 Workplace: Vet clinics, zoos, animal hospitals
 Hours: varies



Wildlife Biologist
 Salary: \$27,100 – \$47,500
 Workplace: Zoos and animal habitats
 Hours: varies



Botanist (biological scientist)
 Salary: \$46,100 – \$87,700
 Workplace: Research and environmental organizations
 Hours: varies



FFA
 Agricultural science education is built on the three core areas of classroom/laboratory instruction, supervised agricultural experience programs, and FFA student organization opportunities. FFA prepares students for leadership, personal growth, and career success.

PARENT CORNER

- Discussion starter—*performance mapping*. Performance mapping is not only used in education, it is increasingly used in industry. One performance mapping strategy measures the things that people enjoy doing and the behavioral characteristics associated with those things. Research shows that when people enjoy what they are doing—when their interests match their occupations—their job satisfaction leads to higher productivity. What does your child enjoy doing that might contribute to a particular career?
- Career exploration: ask your relatives and friends to make it a point to discuss their chosen occupation with your child. Broaden their career horizons!
- "From athletic trainer to veterinarian, the Science Technology and Health Academy offers a wide variety of career pathways for students to explore." Deb Barry, Agriscience teacher. For further information about smaller learning communities at BRHS, contact Academic Advisor Kelli Kennedy at 941-751-8230, ext. 2283.

FCAT reading comprehension QUESTION

★ What class introduced agriscience careers to the student in the article?

Answer: The Agriscience Foundations class with Mrs. Barry.

What's on the WEB?

www.FFA.org
www.FlaFFA.org
www.avma.org

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EdVantage Strategic Objective #4: Actively engage in global outreach.



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