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MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Grand Challenges

K-State Research and Extension develops and delivers practical, research-based solutions to challenges faced by all Kansans, which includes the grand challenges:

- Global Food Systems
- Water
- Health
- Community Vitality
- Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

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Grand Challenge: <u>Developing Tomorrow's Leaders, Global Food Systems, Water, and Community Vitality</u>

Title: Shawnee County K-State Research and Extension highlights career path of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent to French Middle School Career Day participants

Why is this issue important?

It is important to provide information to students about a career as an Extension Agent in Agriculture and Natural Resources because the Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agents who work across the state support the individuals who are involved in providing agricultural products and taking care of our natural resources at a local level, which in turn impacts our state as a whole.

Extension Agents not only help to bring updated information to those who are already knowledgeable about agriculture, but we also often help those who are interested in getting into agriculture but aren't sure where to start and do not have

a cultural background or educational experience in agriculture. We provide help to those who are wanting to manage their natural resources, as well.

However, adults and students alike may not even be aware that a career as an Extension Agent is an opportunity.



How did Extension address this issue?

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent Abigail Gettinger highlighted and explained a career as an Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent at the French Middle School Career Day on November 22nd. In addition, she shared about different areas that youth can go into as an Extension Agent beyond the agriculture and natural resources programming area.

What was the impact?

Seventy students from French Middle School attended the rotating sessions and learned about how Kansas State University Extension Agents serve as professional educators who help support local individuals by answering specific questions on topics in agriculture and natural resources, as well as by providing educational presentations or hosting speakers on topics in agriculture and natural resources. As a result, students were made aware of the opportunities to work in Extension across the state and provide support to agriculture and natural resources through serving as a community educator.

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