

Showcasing Agricultural Education Programs with Book Creator

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Introduction/Need for Innovation

- Important to educate preservice teachers on the integration of technology in the classroom (Chai, Koh, & Tsai, 2010).
- Training preservice teachers to use technology in an educational context strongly influences their efficacy and use in their own classrooms (Hammond et al., 2009).
- Book Creator (n.d.) is an online tool teachers and students can use to create digital books. The e-books allow for creativity and storytelling while students prepare for their first round of field experience teaching.

How it Works

Example e-book created by instructor



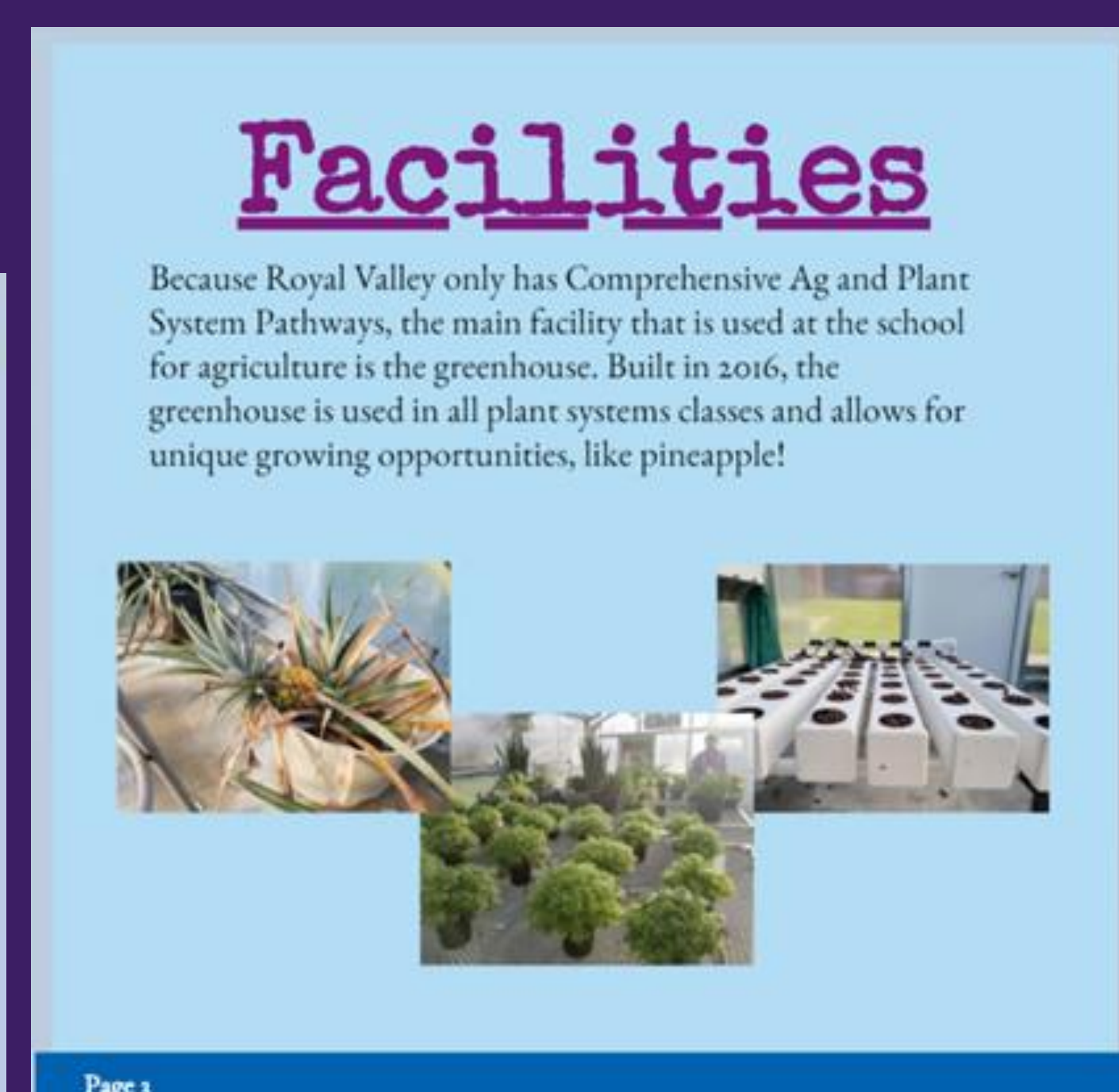
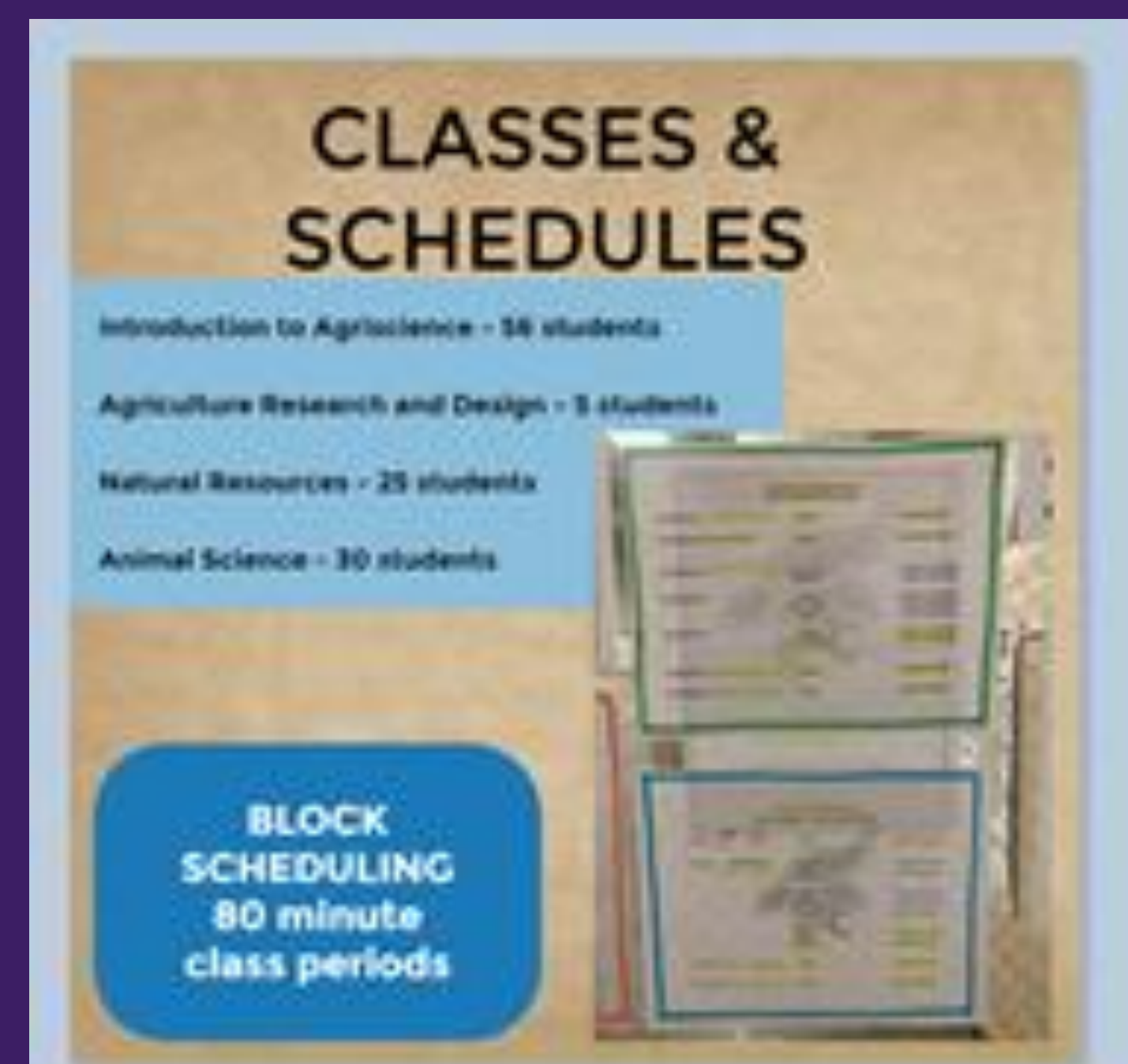
- Used to communicate expectations of the assignment and feature a few of the features

19 Ag Ed students in the teaching methods course visited 7 field experience schools on August 30, 2018

- They captured video, took pictures, interviewed the teacher(s), and gathered supplemental documents to help them teach in the school a few weeks later.

Each student completed their own e-book via Bookcreator.com.

- Course instructor created a “library” in Book Creator to share all projects.
- Had two weeks to complete the assignment
- Students encouraged to view other e-books



Feedback from Students

Pros

- Very user friendly
- Allowed them to display their creativity
- Key questions developed before the site visit
- Reviewing classmates' books prior to submitting their own

Cons

- Struggled with the new technology
- Getting text to fit on the page
- Inserting pictures
- Lack of creativity

Advice

- Allow more time to complete the book
- Submit after they teach at the school
- One e-book per travel team
- Assistance with inserting video/photos and using iPad app

Future Plans/Advice to Others

- Future Plans:
 - Fall 2019 students worked in teams to create 8 e-books
 - Continue to integrate into course
- Advice:
 - Incorporate this tool in other courses/assignments to utilize it more than once.
 - Require all students view each others' books.
 - Provide example e-book
 - Be ready to help troubleshoot problems with technology.



Scan the QR Code to view the 2019 PDS e-books

Costs/Resources

- Free up to 40 books in one library.
- Other plans available for a fee.
- The e-book can be created using an iPad or Google Chrome.

References

- Book Creator (n.d.) Retrieved from <https://bookcreator.com/>
- Chai, C., Koh, J., Tsai, C. (2010). Facilitating preservice teachers' development of technological, pedagogical, and content knowledge (TPACK). *Educational Technology & Society, 11*(4), 63-73.
- Hammond, M., Fragkouli, E., Suandi, I., Crosson, S., Ingram, J., Johnston-Wilder, P., Johnston-Wilder, S., Kingston, Y., Pope, M., Wray, D., (2009). What happens as student teachers who made very good use of ICT during pre-service training enter their first year of teaching? *Teacher Development, 13*(2), 93-106