

Career Investigation Grades 6-8

Overview

Students learn how to make decisions about their career(s) and lifelong learning using career information, other materials and skills. Career investigation introduces the student to the many careers in the world of work and what a student must do to prepare for a career.

Students will:

- Identify personal strengths and areas of needs.
- Evaluate personal interests, career interests, and aptitudes.
- Explain how basic skills are essential in every area of work.
- Locate, analyze and process career information.
- Learn and demonstrate how many skills apply to a variety of careers.
- Learn and apply the process cycle used by employers in selecting employees.
- Recognize the importance of career choice on one's personal lifestyle.
- Prepare realistic goals to effectively plan and achieve personal career(s) goals.
- Recognize the importance of good work habits, teamwork and work ethics.

Tips for Parents:

- Observe what your child's interests are.
- Expose your child to varied career opportunities.
- Point out career options in local newspapers. (*The Austin American Statesman's* Sunday edition has careers showcased.)
- Take advantage of parent/child career days.
- Discuss math applications when you cook.
- Use the Internet.
- Encourage reading to gather and process information.
- Encourage elective courses such as Keyboarding and Computer Applications.
- Observe and discuss various job clusters.
- Role-play job interviews to help your child develop interview skills.
- Stress the importance of an education.
- Share examples of good resumes with your child.
- Practice completion of job applications with your child.
- Compare and contrast working conditions of various careers.
- Explain and discuss the labor (physical exertion) versus non-labor jobs/careers.
- Encourage use of journals for job research and goal-setting.
- Gather relevant material to your child's career choice from friends and family members.
- Be an example.
- Stress the importance of task completion.
- Praise observed positive, professional behavior of others in the workforce when out with your child.
- Use story-telling to relate examples of changes in our society.
- Discuss the effect of Hi-Tech progress on careers.