

# NOVEMBER is Career Development Month

These activities are designed to highlight the importance of life-long career development. Share these with instructors in your building. Listed below are suggested grade-level activities and possible web sites for additional information:

## Ways to Build Career Awareness K–5

- Conduct a "what do you wear to work" activity to explore clothes, uniforms and equipment required for different careers. Purchase different career outfits for kindergarten students. Take their picture and display on a career-related bulletin board.
- Have students either wear or make a hat or draw and decorate a hat that symbolizes a career area. Make newspaper hat then decorate with career related items <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Hat>
- Have students draw pictures of jobs they
- Create a collage out of words and pictures that represent self/career interests.
- Play a career clue game—Give clues about career cluster and have students guess the cluster.
- Alphabet Jobs—How many jobs can be named for the letter A, B, C, etc.?  
<http://www.slatersoftware.com/Alphabet%20Occupations.pdf> ;  
<http://www.actionalphabet.com/alphabetoccupations.html>
- Career Speakers—Invite parents, grandparents or another significant adult to visit and talk about their career area. If possible, have them bring tools of their work.
- Bag of Careers—Fill a bag with tools or clothing worn or used “on the job” and have students guess the career area. Or, as a class, discuss the career area.
- Career Cluster Bulletin Board—Use a cluster of grapes to display Georgia’s 17 Clusters
- Choose and read various career-focused books during story times. Select books from the Elementary Career Reading List.
- Create a career station where students can gather information about a selected cluster.
- Add a “jobs people were doing” component to class field trips. Make a list with students when you get back to the classroom.
- Ask students what “good work habits” means. Work on a definition (or examples) and post it in the room. Allow students to create a circle map using “good work habits” as the center. Use strips of newspaper for students to record their “good work habits”.
- When two or more students work on or complete a task together praise their **teamwork**.  
[http://www.ehow.com/list\\_6374373\\_indoor-teambuilding-activities-elementary-students.html](http://www.ehow.com/list_6374373_indoor-teambuilding-activities-elementary-students.html)
- Complete activities designed to teach conflict management.  
<http://www.njsbf.org/images/content/1/1/11155/CR%20Elementary%20Volume%20II.pdf>
- Praise punctuality. <http://teachers.net/lessons/posts/4242.html>
- Copy pages from clip art that highlight career areas for students to color.  
[http://mychildsfuture.org/parents/activities/Activity\\_ES\\_OccupationsColoring.pdf](http://mychildsfuture.org/parents/activities/Activity_ES_OccupationsColoring.pdf)



## Ways to Build Awareness and Explore Careers 6–8

- Create a career Scavenger Hunt. <http://www.schcounselor.com/2012/04/career-scavenger-hunt-free-printable.html>
- Ask students to draw a family career tree. [http://breitlinks.com/careers/career\\_pdfs/familytreews.pdf](http://breitlinks.com/careers/career_pdfs/familytreews.pdf)
- Review a newspaper and identify 10 careers without using the classified job ads.
- Have students think of all the occupations needed to put a classroom together then sort them by clusters.
- Explore then make career-related posters to hang in the classrooms or hallways.
- Cut out career-related words from newspapers or magazines to create a career-related word wall.
- Conduct a "what do you wear to work" activity to explore clothes, uniforms and equipment required for different careers.
- Have students decorate a brown paper bag (large or small) with pictures, drawings, or statements, etc., of careers that interest them. Have other students guess which occupation the bag represents.
- Highlight a different pathway and career each week; include a resource center for that pathway.
- Schedule "Lunch and Learn" sessions in the career center. Invite speakers in during lunch time to talk with students about their career field; invite college representatives to talk about going to college; other topics might include STEM, Healthcare Occupations and Nontraditional Occupations
- Create career pathway bulletin boards with aligned near-by postsecondary options
- Have students' interview parents, teachers, businesspersons and other adults about their careers. <https://career.berkeley.edu/Info/InfoQuestions.stm>
- Introduce students to multiple web-based career exploration/planning sites.
- Have a "Careers and You" booth in the cafeteria. Be available to answer questions students have during lunch. Connect to your selected career-information system for further exploration and/or discovery.
- Have students do a Labor Market Scavenger Hunt, using the Department of Labors "HOT JOBS" at [http://explorer.dol.state.ga.us/mis/current/hot\\_careers\\_current.pdf](http://explorer.dol.state.ga.us/mis/current/hot_careers_current.pdf)
- Talk to students about your career path. Focus on the "why" you are a teacher.
- During class field trips have students keep a list of jobs they noticed people doing.
- Have students choose one career area they are interested in and then research at least three other related career areas. Emphasize the need for a plan B.
- Have students watch various career focused videos or CD's.
- When students talk about the latest blockbuster movie, ask them to watch the credits at the end. What jobs are listed? Which ones sound interesting? Cluster: Arts, AV Technology & Communications
- Provide copies of the Georgia Department of Labor's publication, "Georgia Career Planner" at <http://explorer.dol.state.ga.us/mis/Current/cplancurrent.pdf>
- Print and place multiple copies of the Georgia Department of Labor's publication, "Dress for Job Success" at <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/pdf/forms/dol4424.pdf> in your career center.
- Print and place multiple copies of the Georgia Department of Labor's publication, "Identifying Your Skills" at <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/pdf/forms/dol4435.pdf> in your career center.
- Print and place multiple copies of the Georgia Department of Labor's publication, "Internet Job Search Strategies" at <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/pdf/forms/dol4421.pdf> in your career center.



## Ways to Enhance Career Decisions 9–12

- Pick a Theme of the Month or use the NCDA theme for this year. Identify the tools related to a variety of careers and create a display. Ask your CTAE instructors to assist you with gathers tools and materials.
- Have students compare today's careers with those they think may occur by 2100 or those from the past (1900's). Use the following website for your information.  
[http://www.forbes.com/2006/05/20/jobs-future-work\\_cx\\_hc\\_06work\\_0523jobs.html](http://www.forbes.com/2006/05/20/jobs-future-work_cx_hc_06work_0523jobs.html)  
<http://jobs.aol.com/articles/2011/09/08/10-best-paying-jobs-of-the-future/> Best Paying Jobs
- Have students' interview parents, teachers, business persons and other adults to learn more about how they found their careers. Allow the students to create interview questions.
- Ask students to analyze chart found at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2003/oct/wk3/art04.htm> or use information contained this College Board publication at [http://www.collegeboard.com/prod\\_downloads/about/news\\_info/trends/ed\\_pays\\_2007.pdf](http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/about/news_info/trends/ed_pays_2007.pdf)
- Conduct Lunch and Learn Sessions. Invite speakers in during lunch time to talk with students about their career field. STEM occupations, Healthcare occupations, nontraditional occupations
- Pick a broad topic area such as "water" and identify careers related to this topic (Plumber, Ship Captain, Water Treatment Plant Worker, Designer of Jet Skis, Swimming Teacher, etc.).
- Select a product such as "milk" and identify careers related to the product (Farming, Packaging, Trucking, Marketing, etc.).
- Categorize the classified ads into Career Pathways.
- Prepare a cost analysis of the training required to enter different careers.
- Ask students to research a favorite subject area that relates to their career aspirations.
- Have students describe what they don't want to do and why.
- Review the newspaper classified job ads and discuss the technology required for each job.
- Have students write a description of their ideal job and share with the class.
- Have students identify 10 unusual, unique or nontraditional careers.
- Have students identify 10 new careers created since their parents or grandparents started working.  
[http://www.careervision.org/about/Emerging\\_Career\\_Fields.htm](http://www.careervision.org/about/Emerging_Career_Fields.htm)
- Ask students to draw their Career Pathways logo.
- Have students create and video tape a Career Pathway Advertisement
- Post previous student career success stories around the room or building.
- List "Hot Jobs" and "Jobs on the Decline." Utilize career-related web sites.
- Bring in a college catalog or utilize on-line information; have students review the course selections, titles and career fields that aligns with their selected pathway.
- Ask students to discuss various quotes from a career focus. Example: "Go confidently in the directions of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined."--Henry David Thoreau  
[http://humanresources.about.com/od/inspirationalquotations/a/quotes\\_work.htm](http://humanresources.about.com/od/inspirationalquotations/a/quotes_work.htm)
- When students talk about the latest blockbuster movie, ask them to watch the credits at the end. What jobs are listed? Which ones sound interesting?

