Value Added Career Activities

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October 27, 2015
Goals of Career Interventions at Elementary School Level

• Encourage students to participate in activities related to their interests

• Help children
  • become concerned about the future
  • increase personal control over their lives
  • convince themselves to achieve in school and at work
  • develop competent work habits and attitudes

(Super & Savickas)

What are Value Added Career Activities?

• Activities that can be done to expound on the various careers students may explore
Career Activities

Can be used with any cluster or combination of clusters
Careers Fashion Show

• Students come dress as a career professional.
• Walk the runway.
• During the fashion show, a narrator can give more information about the skills needed and job description.
• Further with fashion...Careers Costume Day

Career Bingo Card

• Provide students with a career bingo card.
• Over a long break, encourage students to try to find the careers on the card as they head out with an adult.

Career Café

• Opportunity for students to learn about careers from individuals in their community
• Students can pre-select a particular career or cluster and be invited to meet with individuals from that career
Career Cluster Door Decoration Contest

- Each class needs to pick a cluster from the ones covered during their grade level.
- Winning class in each grade level receives a prize. *popcorn*

Elementary Career Fair

- 5th Graders display their career portfolio
- Set up much like a science fair
- Invite classes to come view display of careers based on career clusters covered in their grade level

Community Helper Bar Graph

- Create a large bar graph outline with community helper pictures along x-axis
- Place students pictures on graph above the career they would like to have if they had to choose
Career Word Searches

• Provide teachers with career word searches that students can do during unstructured times (rainy days during recess, after testing)

• Can type “career word searches” into internet search engine to get word searches

Coloring Pages/Writing Prompt

• Picture at top and a box or lines at bottom to write a story or brief journal entry about the job on page.

• Can be done doing unstructured times also
Super Cluster Saturday

Ideas

• One Saturday a month
• Keynote Speaker for Cluster
• Breakout Sessions by cluster
  • Different Careers in that cluster
• Hands on Activities for that cluster
• Field trip for that cluster

Sample Title of Sessions

• Hot Wheels (auto mechanics)
• Geek Squad (computer repair technology)
• Draw (drafting)
• Special Babysitter’s Club (early childhood development)
• Top Chef (food service)
• Computer Designing (graphic communications)
• Exploring Health Careers (health occupations)
• Future Agents (law enforcement)
• Business Bonanza (office careers)
• Don’t Look at that Bright Light (welding)
Career Appreciation Cards

- Do students know someone who has a career in the cluster you are studying?
- Have students write a Thank You note to that person thanking them for the service they provide.
- Use computer for graphics
Career Taboo

- Create and cut out cards and play a game with your students.
- You can play it in groups or pairs.
- Place the cards in a pile face down.
- One student at a time picks a card, and describes the job given. No gestures.
- He/She can’t use any of the words from the card.
- The student who guesses correctly is awarded points.
- If doing multiple careers, give bonus points if student can guess the career cluster name associated with the career.
- Or you can have all cards from one career cluster.

**Dentist**
- Teeth
- Mouth
- Toothbrush
- Drill
- Cavity

**Lawyer/Attorney**
- Court
- Trial
- Case
- Witness
- Client

**Forest Ranger**
- Wildlife
- Trees
- Parks

**Real Estate Agent**
- Housing
- Sales
- Closing

**Housekeeper**
- Hotel
- Clean
- Vacuum Cleaner
- Dust
- Mop

**Marketing**
- Housing
- Sales
- Closing

**Hospitality & Tourism**
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, Security

**Dentist**
- Teeth
- Mouth
- Toothbrush
- Drill
- Cavity

**Real Estate Agent**
- Housing
- Sales
- Closing

**Housekeeper**
- Hotel
- Clean
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**Marketing**
- Housing
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Career Activities
FOR SPECIFIC CAREER CLUSTERS
First Grade

• Have students create a bumper sticker with their favorite animal.
• Plant a flower garden.
• Recycle Project
• Create hands-on animal centers using these ideas:
  - Veterinarian – use a doctor’s kit & stuffed animals.
  - Park Ranger – put bird/animal feeders outside and observe behavior and eating habits.
  - Farmer – plant an herb or vegetable and watch it grow.
  - Miner – mine for “gems” in a box filled with sand.

• Set up a play airport terminal with a keyboard, plane schedule, tickets, passports, etc.
• Have older students research plane fares to popular destinations.
• Compare costs and the distances using math skills.
• Using a wagon or a box with rope, have students time how long it takes to move loads of blocks from one place to another based on the weight of the loads.
• Learn about local fish and game laws.
• Play detectives to solve pretend mysteries like shoeprints, fingerprints, etc.
• Create a pretend court room and conduct a mock trial. Provide students with a hypothetical case. Students should come up with a “verdict”.
• Have students take turns being “crossing guards” and escorting the class from one room to another.
Second Grade

- Using disposable cameras, have students take pictures, print them out, and create a “museum” gallery.

- Talent Show

- Create hands-on centers using these ideas
  - Illustrator – paints, pencils, paper, drawing books
  - Actor – costumes and scenes from plays or movies
  - Sound Engineer – record and playback songs

- Have students teach a lesson to the class.

- Allow students to help grade each other’s papers.

- Discuss different types of physicians.

- Have students measure each other’s height, weight, shoe size, record eye color, hair color, etc.

- Have students create a weekly menu for their family or a daily menu for younger students that are nutritionally balanced.

- Host a “Healthy Food Tasting Day”, bringing in different health foods the kids may not have tasted before: kiwi, papaya, pomegranate, asparagus, etc.
Third Grade

• Make cards to send to a nursing home.
• Have older students create activities for younger students.
• Have the students create a Beauty/Barber Salon.
• Discuss bullying and how to resolve conflict.
• Have students learn how to sew a button.
• Babysitting Best Practices
• Have students do various types of exercise (Zumba, Yoga, Step)

• **Learning Power**
• **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy**
• **In-Class Field Trips**
• Students have discussion with family about energy saving tips. Help their family implement one a month.
• Have students review a sample power bill and discuss what it entails.
• **Jackson EMC: E-Smart Kids Resources**

• Look at travel brochures; have the students plan a trip. Or create their travel brochures.
• Create a pretend restaurant, including menu, advertising, and simple budget.
• Have the students take turns coming up with activities for recess or craft time.
• Teach the students how to set a table in a “fancy” restaurant; hold a napkin-folding contest.
• Plan a class party or a special event for the parents in the class.
Fourth Grade

- Have students research a business and create business cards.
- Have students create a classified ad to hire someone.
- Have students run a canned food drive for the local food bank. Students should be responsible for: advertising, posters, staffing, and accounting.
- Assist with school fundraiser.
- Have students create a business plan for a pretend business they would to have. Discuss how hobbies/interests can turn into business ventures.
- Create a pretend assembly line for assembling snacks, school supplies, etc.
- Have the students “manufacture” an object according to a plan; have other students compare the finished product to the plan as the “inspectors”.
- Build paper furniture. Create new packaging for a popular product.
Fourth Grade

- Set up simple hands-on science centers around the classroom: different rocks and minerals, different leaves, a microscope with slides, etc.
- Let the students design a bridge.
- Have the students create paper mache’ planets to hang around the classroom.
- Create a hands-on learning center within the classroom with play tools, building blocks, styrofoam with plastic pegs for hammering, etc.
- Bring in a variety of tools and have students list what occupations would use each tool.
- Draw a map of the classroom or home.
Fifth Grade

- Create a hands-on grocery store by providing empty food boxes, paper bags, pretend cash register, and paper money. Add an apron for the cashier, create shelves to organize the food, price the items, and teach students how to calculate tax.
- Bring in grocery store flyers as examples and have students create their own.
- Create a new advertisement or logo of an already existing product.
- Talk about the importance of providing good customer service; have them take turns answering questions at the classroom store.
- Under adult supervision, have students take turns counting money for ice cream.
- Create pretend check books. Discuss the importance of knowing how to write a signature.
- Set up a pretend bank for rewards for good behavior.
- Set up a pretend budget.
- Wells Fargo has elementary finance material that can be shared.

*Exhibit at GSCA Conference
Fifth Grade

- Create a pretend Post Office.
- Run a mock campaign for different choices of ice cream, pencils for the school store, etc.
- Pick a street in your town and create a new design/plan for it.
- Have students choose a country to be an “Ambassador” to. Have them do some research on culture and economy, and attempt to solve a problem with another country’s Ambassador.
- Practice military commands.
- Take the kids to the computer lab; let them explore the resources on GAfutures or other educational websites.
- Try to round up some older computers (maybe even a typewriter), giving the kids a chance to see what you used when you were younger.
- Have the kids design simple computer games.
- Let the kids take apart an old computer.
- Have the kids create a simple website for their class.
Career Cluster Guest Speaker

- Agriculture, Foods, & Natural Resources: Someone who works with animals
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics: Mechanic, School Transportation person, or someone who drives a “big rig”
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security: 911 Dispatch Person
- Arts, AV/Technology, & Communications: TV cameraperson, Local Actors, graphic designer, musician, reporter
- Education & Training: Coach, Educator
- Health Science: Nutritionist, Paramedic
- Energy: Line Crew, Pour Outage Repair Crew
- Hospitality & Tourism: Chef, Waitress/Waiter, travel agent
- Human Services: Fitness instructor, beautician or barber, Party Planner
- Architecture & Construction: Architect or Builder of your school, Your school or district’s electrician, Landscaper,
- Business Management & Administration: Local entrepreneurs, Secretary, Bookkeeper
- Manufacturing: Furniture maker and have the kids “finish” a piece of scrap wood along with him/her
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM): Astronaut, Astronomer, Lab Technician, Marine Biologist, Science Teacher, Mathematician
- Finance: Bank Teller, Bank Manager
- Government & Public Administration: Local elected official, board of elections to explain voting process, military recruiter or person serving in armed forces
- Information Technology: Video game developer, school’s technology coordinator
- Marketing: Store Manager, Real Estate Agent, Salesperson
Career Cluster Field Trips

- Agriculture, Foods, & Natural Resources: Farmer’s Market/Farm/Animal Shelter
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics: Auto Repair Shop, Airport, Train Station, Ship yard
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security: 911 Center, Outside Bldg with a fire truck, Police Officer (K-9)
- Arts, AV/Technology, & Communications: TV studio, Printing company, movie theater
- Education & Training: College Campus
- Health Science: Offices of a doctor, dentist or vet, Urgent Care facility
- Energy: An electric company, Plant Tours
- Hospitality & Tourism: A resort, a hotel, restaurant, travel agency
- Human Services: Visit a hair salon or barber shop, a fitness gym, visit nursing home to do activities with residents
- Architecture & Construction: Home improvement store
- Business Management & Administration: Visit a local business or chamber of commerce
- Manufacturing: Tour a local manufacturing facility
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM): Local high school and high school classes do science experiments
- Finance: Bank
- Government & Public Administration: Courthouse, Post Office, City Hall
- Information Technology: Visit a local technology company to see their network area; Best Buy Geek Squad
- Marketing: Grocery store manager, Retail Sales Associate...(clothing stores elementary students tend to frequent)
Career Planning
Family Involvement

• Job Shadow Family Member

• Career Interview Family Member

• Career Family Tree

• At-home Career Connection Newsletter

• Put names of different careers in a bowl. Each month, have the child draw the name of a career out of the bowl. During the month, have child collect as much information as he or she can about that career. Reward your child at the end of the month for collecting the information and discuss the career with him or her.
Sample Resources

*More Career Fun*

*Creative Career Education*

The GaDOE is not endorsing any particular product. The presenter is simply sharing a few resources available for school counselors.
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<th>All Levels</th>
<th>Elementary</th>
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<th>High</th>
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<td>Getting Parents Involved in Your School Counseling Program</td>
<td>Small Groups for Elementary School</td>
<td>Career Exploration Activities</td>
<td>Small Groups for High School</td>
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<td>This webinar will explore the many different ways you can get parents on board with your school counseling initiatives.</td>
<td>This webinar will present participants with ideas on how to organize small groups from the beginning to the end.</td>
<td>This webinar will provide school counselors with information on how to implement career exploration activities into their program.</td>
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Questions?