

Career Exploration Activities

Explore, Plan and Research for the Future

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Session Overview



Richard Woods,
Georgia's School Superintendent
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- Career Exploration Small Groups
- Career Exploration as an Interdisciplinary Unit
- Career Exploration and Parents
- Career Exploration and Technology
- Career Exploration Sample Activities

Career Exploration & Small Groups

Career Café:



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An Alternative to Career Day

- Interest Inventory or Informal Survey
- Guest Speakers from community
- Speakers meet with a select group of students for an informal conversation during lunch.
- Select group = students who initially identified an interest in a particular career or cluster
- Host a certain number per month

Read other posts about Career Café:

[*Serving Up Career Standards With Career Café*](#)

[*Serving Career Standards Through Community Involvement*](#)

[*One of My Greatest Accomplishments as a School Counselor...*](#)

[*One Cool Career Café Cat*](#)

[*When Meeting with a Detective is a Good Thing*](#)

How to Host a Career Cafe at Your School Series

[*Career Café: Location, Location, Location!*](#)

[*Career Café: Setting a Schedule*](#)

[*Career Café: Career Interest Resources Elementary, Middle, and High School*](#)

[*Career Café: Recruiting Speakers*](#)

[*Career Café: Inviting Students*](#)

SAMPLE Careers

Small Group Unit



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- *Session 1:* Career Interest Inventory/ [Career Goals](#) / [Career Plans](#) / Introduce the Career Vision Board
- *Session 2:* Personal Strengths/Overcoming Weaknesses/Soft Skills
- *Session 3:* Show Me the Money: Understanding Salaries & [Cost of Living](#)
- *Session 4:* [Job Search](#) / [Job Interview Techniques](#) / [Resume Writing](#)
- *Session 5:* Experiential Activity: [Job Shadowing Opportunity](#)
- *Session 6:* Sharing of [Career Vision Boards](#) that students have been working on throughout the course of the group.

Sample Units with Lesson Plans



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- [More Career Lesson Plans](#)
- [Additional Career Lesson Plans](#)
- [Teen Job Search Tutorial](#) (Information, advice and tools)
- [Career Plan Project Workbook](#)
- [Career Exploration Modules](#)

Logistics

- Recruitment:
 - Based on career inventory
 - Can group by career clusters or do a mix of career clusters

[Small Groups for Middle School Webinar](#)

11/17 @ 2PM

- Group Agenda
 - Intro/Review/Icebreaker
 - Introduce Concept
 - Video Snippets
 - Infuse Technology Aspect
 - Action Oriented Task
 - Summarize
 - Provide a follow up activity/HW
 - Preview Next Session

Career Development Unit

Ctaern.org



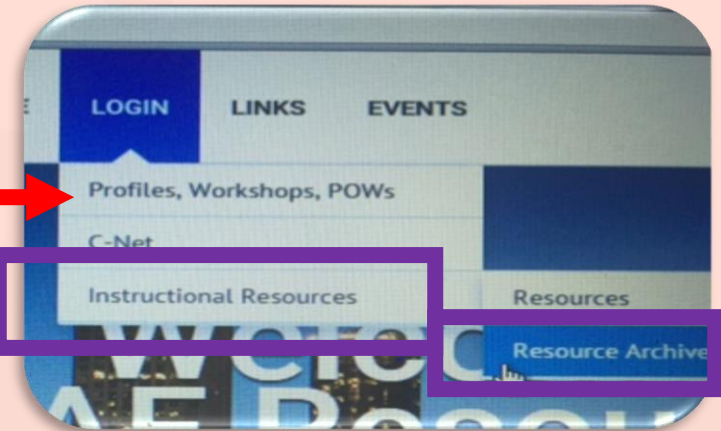
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Password: first three letters of last name and last four of your SSN

Access to the Instructional Resources Center

[New Instructional Resources](#)

[Old Instructional Resources](#)



Middle School Resources

- Agriculture
- Career Development
- Engineering & Technology
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Healthcare Science

Course

- 6th Grade - 32.021 - Career Awareness
- 7th Grade - 32.022 - Career Discovery
- 8th Grade - 32.023 - Career Management

Career Exploration & Interdisciplinary Unit

Academic Integration of Careers into the Core Subjects

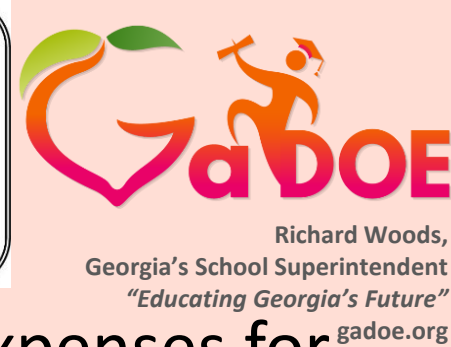
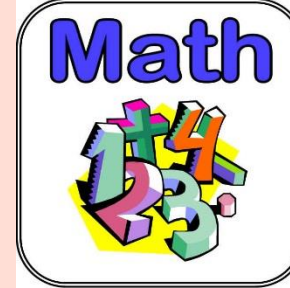
Activities that can be done by teams during a Careers Week



- Research a career
- Write a research paper



- Historical perspective of a career (when, where, why, how)
- Career choices of society members
- Career choices of prominent Georgians



- Cost of Living Expenses for the career researched



- Research careers in which one would use skills of scientific inquiry processes (e.g., hypothesis, record keeping, description and explanation)

Career Exploration & Parents

How can parents get involved in the career exploration process?

Georgia Department of Education

Parents Helping Their Children Make Career Decisions



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Community Helper



Pianist



Comedian



Athlete



Artist



Fashionista



Public Speaker



Scholar



Dancer

- Find out likes and dislikes/interests (Link to handout on identifying child interests)
- Learn about careers
- Set primary and secondary goals
- Create and follow an educational plan
- Exposure to careers on outings

Create a Careers Portfolio

- Record and save dates, places and duties performed in volunteer work, paid jobs, internships or work-based learning experiences. This information can be later transferred to a resume or job application.
- Record classes taken in middle and high school and grades received in those classes.
- Store information about education and training research and the colleges or other training locations explored by your child.
- Record results from interest and personality assessments.
- Store records of awards, achievements or honors. • Record information about extracurricular activities.



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Hands-on Career Exploration

- Have child volunteer for organizations that hire people in his or her career interest area.
- Have child get a part-time or summer job that relate to his or her career interest area.
- Find someone who works in child's career interest area and arrange for child to watch that worker for a day. "Take your child to work day"
- Become familiar with the pathway opportunities offered at feeder high school

Investigate Careers

- What education does this career require?
- Where is the education/training available? Am I able to access the education/training needed to enter this career?
- What is the future outlook for this career?
- What is the path for advancement in the career?
- What other careers are closely related to this career?
- What are the everyday tasks performed in this career?
- What are the normal work hours?
- Does this career require travel?
- What health and retirement benefits are generally found in this line of work?
- What are the typical wages for this career?
- Do I need to relocate to find a job?
- Do the tasks match my interests and values?

Career Exploration & Technology

Web resources that can be used with students to explore careers

Web



Resources



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- [Drive of Your Life](#) - Online **career exploration game**. It helps middle school and high school students learn more about themselves, higher education and careers. This **free educational tool** lets kids answer a series of questions about themselves to learn what careers could interest them and then go on a virtual drive to learn more about each of those careers – all in their own customized car.
- [Road Trip Nation](#) - Watch young people as they travel the country, interviewing inspiring leaders from all walks of life. All Roadtrip Nation educational programs include full access to our Interview Archive, a growing video library of interviews with professionals of all kinds discussing work and life.
- [Career Cluster Videos](#) - These videos show the types of work people do in nearly 550 careers, organized by the 16 career clusters recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Select one of the career clusters below to see a list of career videos available in that cluster. You'll also find a video overview of the cluster itself.
- [My Next Move](#) - My Next Move is a web-based interactive tool for new job seekers, students, and other career explorers to learn more about their career options.
- [O*Net](#) -The **O*NET Interest Profiler (IP)** is a self-assessment career exploration tool that can help clients discover the type of work activities and occupations that they would like and find exciting. Clients identify and learn about broad interest areas most relevant to themselves. They can use their interest results to explore the world of work.
- [Georgia Department of Labor](#) - Explore resources devoted to the workforce-related needs of youth, as well as information to assist with educational decisions.

Career Exploration & Sample Activities

Georgia Department of Education

Career Exploration Activities Links



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Learning for Life

- [Career Exploration Lessons for 6th & 7th grade](#)
- [Career Exploration Lessons for 8th grade](#)
- [Create a Career Explorers Club](#)

Other Activities

- [Career Activity File K-12](#)
- [Job Shadowing](#)
- [Job Shadowing](#) (Tips for Teens)
- [Job Shadowing Opportunity](#)

FUTURE OCCUPATION BIO-POEM



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Bio-poems are always quick, fun writing activities for students. It helps each student imagine their future in a favorite occupation based upon information they find in a career exploration web resource.

- Here is the format for the occupational bio-poem:

- Line 1 – *Write your first name*
- Line 2 – *Write your favorite occupation*
- Line 3 – *Who can [Write something important you will do in this occupation]*
- Line 4 – *Who earns [Write the median salary for this occupation]*
- Line 5 – *Who knows how to [Write knowledge necessary for this occupation]*
- Line 6 – *Who values [Write the work value(s) related to the occupation]*
- Line 7 – *Write your last name*

- Here is an example from a ninth-grade student:

Ronnie

*A physical therapist
Who can alleviate pain
Who earns \$23 an hour
Who knows strength, motor development and
function
Who values a good workplace*

BONUS: ADD A PICTURE

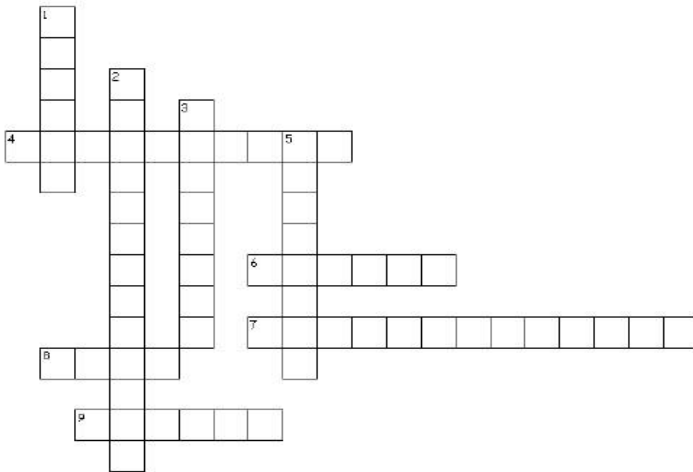
Lewis



Career Puzzles & Word Searches

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Career Themed Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- A group of people who will say good things about you and who know specifics strengths that you offer.
- Financial compensation an employee receives for performing the job.
- When interviewing, both verbal and non-verbal are important.
- Skills such as communication, adaptability, and conflict resolution.
- A person at a higher level within a company or within your profession who counsels you and helps guide your career.

DOWN

- Concepts and ideas that define a job-seeker and influence your satisfaction, not only with your job, but with your life, are workplace _____.
- Term for mid-career job-seekers who appear to have too many years of experience, too much education, or were too highly paid in current or previous job.
- These can include health, dental, disability, even auto/home insurance.
- This type of speech is a 15- to 30-second "commercial" that job-seekers use in a variety of situations (career fairs, networking events, job interviews, cold calling) that succinctly tells the listener who you are, what makes you unique, and the benefits you can provide.

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CAREER WORD SEARCH

Find the careers in the puzzle below. Look at the first two lines of the puzzle and read the letters that are not used. Place those letters in the blocks below to find a hidden message. Then go on to the next page.



- | | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| ACCOUNTANT | EDITOR | LEGISLATOR | ROOPER |
| ACTIVITY | ELECTRONIC | LIBRARIAN | SOCIOLOGIST |
| ADVERTISING | FARMER | ANALYST | SURVEYOR |
| ARCHITECT | FORGEMAN | PHOTOGRAPHER | TEACHER |
| AUDIOLOGIST | GEOGRAPHER | PILOT | TELEMARKETER |
| CARPENTER | JEWELER | PLUMBER | WATERWORKS |
| CHIEF | LABORER | PODCASTER | Welder |
| ENTREPRENEUR | LAWYER | REPORTER | WRITER |

STANDARDS ADDRESSED IN THIS ACTIVITY: Career Development/MOS, Cross-Curricular/Development/MPM

www.vacareerlink.org

Virginia Career VIEW Virginia Tech

1-800-942-9878

It's a Family Affair

- [Career Role Models](#)
- [Career Family Tree](#)
- [Family Chat](#)
- [Parent and Student Activities \(Starts on page 13.\)](#)



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Host a Youth Job Fair

- Invite local businesses who may employ students at your school
- Volunteer and Entrepreneurial Opportunities
- If offering afterschool or on a Saturday, consider offering breakout sessions
 - Interview Skills
 - Resume Clinics
 - Dress for Success
 - Social Media Etiquette
- May only be suitable for 8th graders

Spotlight Career Clusters

- Cluster of the Month/Week
- Spotlight on the morning announcements
- Use videos shared earlier to bring light to the cluster.
- Career Cluster Bulletin Board Display
- Student created career-related posters to hang in the classrooms or hallways
- Students create a career cluster video advertisement. Make it into a contest.
- Encourage teachers to bring in a speaker to the class one day during the month or week a cluster is being spotlighted.



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- During class field trips have students keep a list of jobs they noticed people doing. Provide them with a list of career clusters so they can list the jobs under the appropriate career heading.
- 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 movies, videos or DVDs.
- When students talk about the latest movie, ask them to watch the credits at the end. What jobs are listed? Which ones sound interesting?
- 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 (GCIS/gacolleger411/Career Cruising) for further exploration and/or discovery.
- 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.

Career Icebreakers

What's My Job

- Write the names of different jobs on pieces of paper, there will be two cards for each job.
- Distribute one card to each student and instruct him/her not to show the cards to anyone else.
- The students must move around the room, imitating tasks done in that job in order to find his/her partner.
- Once students find their pairs they will sit down quietly.

Job Descriptions

- Have students write down one or two adjectives describing their dream job on a small piece of paper or sticker.
- Pin/stick the adjectives on to the shirts of the students.
- Tell students to walk around the room, looking for one person with similar (or opposite) adjectives.
- Instruct the pairs to discuss their adjectives for a few minutes.

Career Icebreakers

Paired Clusters

- In advance, write names of career clusters and careers within the cluster on a piece of paper.
- The careers should each have a "match" to the career cluster.
- Distribute the papers and instruct the students not to show the paper to anyone
- Instruct the students to walk around the room trying to find their "matches" without saying the name of the careers or clusters.
- They may give a description of their career/cluster (once they figure it out) or say a common phrase.

Describe & Draw

- Organize the students to work in pairs or small groups. One member of the pair/group should have a blank piece of paper and pen.
- The other member should be given a picture of an occupation to describe (You will need to make copies of these pictures in advance.)
- The partner with the picture then starts to describe it to his/her partner. All the while, either member can ask or give clarifying information based on how the description is going.

Career Taboo



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- 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.

Marketing

REAL ESTATE AGENT

Housing
Sales
Closing

Agriculture...

FOREST RANGER

Wildlife
Trees
Parks

Hospitality &
Tourism

Housekeeper

Hotel
Clean
Vacuum Cleaner
Dust
Mop

Law, Public Safety,
Corrections,
Security


Lawyer/Attorney

Court
Trial
Case
Witness
Client

Health Science

Dentist

Teeth
Mouth
Toothbrush
Drill
Cavity



Bonus

Cluster Specific Clubs

Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)



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- Morning Announcements
- Talent Show
- Produce a virtual tour video of the school for new students
- Concerts, Plays



- Visit nursing home to do activities and visit residents
- Conduct a bullying prevention project
- Themed Days and Activities



- Guest speaker from the different educator roles
- Bulletin Boards in school
- Shadow an Educator
- Tutoring Program



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- Have students assist in planning field trips for students
- Have students plan mid year and end of year celebrations

Upcoming Webinars

Small Groups for
Middle School
11/17 @ 2 PM



Small Groups for
Elementary
11/18 @ 2 PM

Small Groups for
High School
11/18 @ 11AM

This webinar will present participants with ideas on how to organize their small groups from the beginning to the end as well as content that can be covered in small groups. This webinar is intended for new counselors, but experienced counselors are welcome to participate.

To register, just click on the topic for your level.

THE END