LEARNING TECHNIQUES

LESSON 11-2 ▲ HOW CAN I LEARN FROM OTHERS?

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will describe their career interests and goals.
* Students will plan and (potentially) conduct a career information interview.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Career Information Interview Worksheet

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Discuss students’ career interests and goals.** Divide students into small groups. Within each group, have each student share one possible career goal for life after high school. After the groups have had a few minutes to talk, ask for volunteers to share their career goals with the entire class. Then discuss what students know about the educational requirements for their career goals. How many will be able to achieve their goal with only a high school diploma? How many will need to complete an apprenticeship or other on-the-job training program? How many think they might want to go to community or technical college for a 2-year degree? How many plan to go to 4-year college?
2. **Introduce career information interviews.** Students have likely had the chance to learn about possible careers on the Internet. But they need the chance to talk to real people and to “try on” different careers. To start this process, your school should attempt to arrange for adults to visit your school so that students can conduct group career information interviews. Students can work in groups (organized by interest area) to conduct an interview with one adult. Interviews should allow students to gather basic information about the career tasks and educational requirements, but should also focus on a challenge the adult has faced in his or her career to give students a real taste of what that career would be like. Explain logistics of your career interviews to students.
3. **Prepare for interviews.** Assign each student a person to interview, providing that person’s name and job title. (Note: you may want to organize students into interest area groups based on the careers represented among the adults who will be visiting, and you may want to bring all the 9th and 10th grade students in the school together to organize the interviews, rather than just making interview assignments within this individual class). Distribute a copy of the *Career Information Interview Worksheet* to each student. Ask students to review the questions and plan how they can participate in an interview. How can they learn about the adult’s career? How can they make a good impression? Point out that the last question – about a challenge – might be a great way to get the interview going. You may have students meet with the other students in their interview groups.
4. **Watch sample interviews online** (optional). There may be sample interviews online to watch. Or, invite in a guest speaker and conduct a model interview. Even simpler, have one student volunteer to interview you in front of the class.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Career Information Interview Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* The following resources are helpful for students and their families to learn about career opportunities and the educational requirements for different careers:
* **Career One Stop:** [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

This site provides national information on the fastest growing and highest paying careers, as well as tips on how to get a job, keep a job, or move up the career ladder.

* **Washington State Occupation Explorer:** A database operated by the Washington State Employment Security Department, which detailed job descriptions and projections.  
  [www.fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/](https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/)

**ALIGNMENT WITH STANDARDS**

* **Essential Academic Learning Requirements Grades 9/10 Grade Level Expectations:** This lesson is aligned with Communication 1.1.1 and Writing 2.2.1 and 2.4.1. Students will use listening strategies appropriate for a mock job interview, demonstrate their understanding of different purposes for writing, and produce career-appropriate documents.
* **Common Core State Standards Grades 9-10:** This lesson is aligned with English Language Arts Speaking and Listening 1a and Writing 4 and 10. Students will prepare during this lesson so that they can come to an interview well prepared. They will produce clear, career-appropriate writing.
* **American School Counselor Association National Standards:** This lesson is aligned with ASCA Career A2.7, B1.5, and B2. Students will demonstrate a positive attitude toward work and learning and will use an interview to gain career information.

LEARNING TECHNIQUES

LESSON 11-2 STUDENT HANDOUT

CAREER INFORMATION INTERVIEW WORKSHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*An information interview can help you learn more about a career. Here are some sample questions. Write down the answers to the questions and think about how these answers might apply to you.*

Adult’s Name: Business:

Job Title: Job Area:

* How long have you held this job?
* How did you learn about the job and how did you get it?
* When did you become interested in this type of career?
* What education did you get after high school?   
  Do you think you need more education? Or less?
* Did you do anything during high school to prepare?
* What do you do in your job every day?
* What is best about your job?
* Can you describe a challenge you faced on the job and how you solved it?