CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 6-21 ▲ EXPLORE APPRENTICESHIP

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will describe the attributes of an apprenticeship.
* Students will identify reasons to consider an apprenticeship program after high school.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handout:**
* Explore Apprenticeship Worksheet
* **Family Handout:**
* Exploring Apprenticeship
* **Computer, projector, screen, Internet access** for teacher to show ***Explore Apprenticeship*** web site ([www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov))
* **Student computer access**

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Define apprenticeship.** Ask students to work in small groups to brainstorm a definition to the word **“Apprentice.”** (No, it’s not just someone who works for Donald Trump on TV!) Have them volunteer answers and write their answers on the board. Discuss the answers. Then project the home page of the ***Explore Apprenticeship*** web site on the screen. Explain that an apprentice is someone who is PAID while they LEARN. An apprentice learns on the job by working with a skilled expert. All apprentices go to school at the same time to deepen what they are learning on the job. There are apprenticeships available in many different fields – from cooking to health care to construction. Tell students that most apprenticeship programs require a minimum age of 18 but some offer apprenticeship opportunities to 16 year olds. An apprentice is paid to learn a skilled occupation.
2. **Learn about the attributes of an apprentice.** Ask students for a show of hands. How many would like to be an apprentice and get paid to learn? Count up the number, and discuss their reasons. Then move to the **“Who”** page of the web site using the left-side navigation column. Guide students through the quiz, asking for a Yes/No show of hands for each answer. Explain that a successful apprentice is someone who likes to learn by doing something, by working alongside an expert. Discuss the skills your students have already learned by apprenticing: riding a bike or using a computer could be good examples.
3. **Learn about different types of apprenticeships.** Let students choose to research one of five different types of career fields that offer apprenticeships:

* Health Care
* Manufacturing
* Food Preparation & Serving
* Public Safety
* Construction & Building Trades

Distribute the *Explore Apprenticeship Worksheet* and have each student (or group) sit at a computer. You may have students work individually or in small groups by interest area, but make sure each student completes a worksheet. Ask the students to go to [www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov) and then click on the “Who” tab on the left side of the screen. Then have them select their career field choice from the menu near the top of the screen. Ask students to complete the worksheet based on what they learn about their selected career field.

1. **Discuss apprenticeship opportunities.** After about fifteen minutes, call the group back together and have at least one student from each career field share what they learned. You might want to record students’ ideas on the board. Summarize the exercise by noting what your students have already learned about apprenticeships.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Explore Apprenticeship Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **OPTIONAL EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

**Present CTE and pre-apprenticeship resources*.*** If possible, have a school counselor or a staff person from your local high school or school district visit your class or organize a Career Fair to share information about the career prep, Career & Technical Education (CTE), and pre-apprenticeship resources that are available for your students. Local resources might include:

* Specialized pre-apprenticeship classes at your high school or a local skills center
* Opportunities to take CTE or Tech Prep classes (often for both high school and college credit)
* Career prep clubs, competitions, or activities at the middle or high school level (such as Skills USA, DECA or Police/Fire Explorers, etc.)
* Summer programs or camps to explore career fields

**Discuss career prep and apprenticeship opportunities with families.** If you wish, have each student take home a copy of the **Explore Apprenticeship Handout** to share with their families. You can supplement this handout with local information about opportunities and resources in your school district or by referring students and their families to the Department of Labor & Industries’ main apprenticeship page: [www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/](http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/). Your school might want to organize a Career Fair to highlight all the career prep, Career & Technical Education (CTE), and pre-apprenticeship resources that are available for your students – at middle school and in high school.

* **Explore Apprenticeship**

[www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov)

An interactive web site for students prepared by the Department of Labor & Industries

* **Washington Apprenticeship**

[www.Apprenticeship.lni.wa.gov](http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/)

Information about apprenticeship programs and how to become an apprentice from the Department of Labor & Industries

* **Washington Tech Prep**

[www.techprepwa.org/](http://www.techprepwa.org/)   
Links to Tech Prep consortia around the state

* **Skills Centers**

[www.washingtonskillscenters.org/](http://www.washingtonskillscenters.org/)   
Links to regional skills centers around the state

**ALIGNMENT WITH STANDARDS**

* **Essential Academic Learning Requirements Grade 7 Grade Level Expectations:** This lesson is aligned with Communication 1.1.1 and 2.2.2 and Educational Technology 1.3.3. Students will participate responsibly in a small group discussion and will analyze, synthesize, and use information from a web site to complete a worksheet and report results.
* **Common Core State Standards Grade 7:** This lesson is aligned with English Language Arts Speaking and Listening 1b and 4 and Writing 4. Students will participate in discussions with a group, acknowledging new information and qualifying or justifying their own views as needed. They will demonstrate that they can accurately reiterate information and write in an appropriate format.
* **American School Counselor Association National Standards:** This lesson is aligned with ASCA Career A2.3, B1.8, and B2.1. Students will demonstrate knowledge about the changing workplace, understand how changing economic and societal needs influence employment trends and future training, and demonstrate awareness of the education and training needed to achieve career goals.

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LESSON 6-21 STUDENT HANDOUT

EXPLORE APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHEET

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Pick an interesting career field.** Check the apprenticeship career field that sounds most interesting:

* Health Care
* Manufacturing
* Food Preparation & Serving
* Public Safety
* Construction & Building Trades

**Learn about apprenticeships in a career field.** Go to [www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov). Click on the “Who” tab on the left side of the screen. Then click on your career field choice from the top of the screen. Write down three things you’ve learned about this career field.



**What career would you most like to learn as an apprentice?**

**What would you like to learn about that career?**

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LESSON 6-21 FAMILY HANDOUT

EXPLORING APPRENTICESHIP

**WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?**

An apprenticeship is a chance for a student to earn money while he or she learns a skilled occupation. Most apprenticeships require a minimum age of 18 but some offer apprenticeship opportunities to 16 year olds. Most apprenticeships last anywhere from one year to five years. Apprentices usually work full-time and go to school part-time, often at a community college or technical college. While on the job, apprentices learn from a skilled expert.

There are apprenticeships available in a wide range of career fields. In Washington State, most apprenticeship programs are geared toward these five career fields:

* Health Care
* Manufacturing
* Food Preparation & Serving
* Public Safety
* Construction & Building Trades

**HOW CAN STUDENTS PREPARE FOR AND FIND AN APPRENTICESHIP?**

Students who are interested in an apprenticeship should take as much math and science as possible. Many of these skilled careers require strong technical skills. Students should also find out if they can enroll in pre-apprenticeship programs or career-focused classes or clubs while they are in high school. Your school counselor can give you more information about the Career & Technical Education and pre-apprenticeship programs that are available in your school district.

Once they are in high school, students can use the information available through the Washington Department of Labor & Industries at [www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Become/](http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Become/) to search for apprenticeship programs by county. This listing shows the required age and educational credentials for each program.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE?**

* **For younger students:** Visit **Explore Apprenticeship** at [www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov](http://www.ExploreApprenticeship.wa.gov).
* **For older students:** Visit the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries’ **“Become an Apprentice”** site at <http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/Become/>.