CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 6-12 ▲ CAREER INTEREST SURVEY

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will describe their career interests and goals.
* Students will research and describe one potential career area.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Career Interest Worksheet
* **Family Handouts:**
* Your Child’s Career Interests
* **Computer access** (and paper if you want students to print their list of potential careers)

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Have students describe themselves using words.** Tell students you are going to quickly call out five descriptive words. They should stand up when you call out a word that describes them. Otherwise, they should sit down. Call out the following words: **Adventurous – Patient – Careful – Outgoing – Persuasive**.

Ask for a volunteer or two to explain why they chose the word they did. Then explain that thinking about the way they would describe themselves, as well as activities they like and dislike, will help them decide what they want to do after high school. The Career Survey will give them a list of activities, descriptions, and subject areas to check.

1. **Access the Career Quiz.** Have students go to the Washington Career Bridge website:
* Go to <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Survey_Cluster.aspx>
* Click on **Explore Careers** in the left box in the middle of the page.
* Click on the **Take A Quiz!** button at the top of the page.
1. **Complete the quiz.** Help students follow the directions to click each activity, word, or subject that they like or that describes them. When they finish, print out their listings of potential careers if you wish and have students share these with their families.
2. **Discuss students’ potential careers.** After students have completed the Career Quiz and while they are still at their computers and still have the results on their screens, distribute the *Career Interest Worksheet*. Ask students to copy the top three career possibilities onto the worksheet.

Ask for volunteers to share the career areas that were listed for them. Write some of these on the board. Have students volunteer what they think someone in that career area might do.

1. **Learn more about one possible career area.** Now have students choose one career area (from their list of three) that sounds the most interesting. Tell them to click on the highlighted text below that career on their results screen. That will show them information about that career area, as well as community and technical colleges in Washington State that have programs in that area. Have students write down several jobs within that career area. Then have them select an interest area to narrow their search and then select a sample college program. They should complete the worksheet with the information they learn.
2. **Discuss interests and careers with families.** Distribute the ***Your Child’s Career Interests* Family Handout**. Encourage students to re-take the Career Quiz with a family member, either at home or at a school or library computer. Have them compare their results with a family member’s. How do their likes and dislikes compare with other people in their family? What career choices do family members suggest for them?

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Career Interest Worksheet***

 **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **EXPLORATION OPPORTUNITIES**

**Learn more about college options and the prerequisites for different college programs.** Your school counselors might wish to discuss each student’s Career Quiz results and relate those interests to course choices for next year or for when the students begin high school. They can stress the connection between students’ work in school today and their dreams for tomorrow.

* **Washington Career Bridge**

<http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/>

Helps students in Washington State find the education and training they need for the job they want via career interest exploration, job trend and education information.

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LESSON 6-12 STUDENT HANDOUT

 CAREER INTEREST WORKSHEET

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

Complete the **Career Quiz** at <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Survey_Cluster.aspx>. When you have finished, use your results screen to complete this worksheet.

**Note three possible career areas.** Based on your results, list the top career areas identified for you.

|  |
| --- |
| **CAREER AREA** |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**Select one possible career area.** On your results screen, click on the career area that you think is your top choice. My top choice career area is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. People in this career area do the following tasks:

and several possible jobs are

**Identify one possible college program.** Now select a possible job or program. Then choose one of the college programs listed on the screen.

Name of program:

Name of college:

Location of college:

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LESSON 6-12 FAMILY HANDOUT

 YOUR CHILD’S CAREER INTERESTS

**What will your child do after high school?** Your child will be starting high school in a year or two. But what will happen after high school? Now is a good time to help your child explore his or her interests and think about possible careers. For many careers, students need to start preparing during high school by taking the right courses.

One way to help your child prepare is with Washington’s Career Bridge web site at [www.careerbridge.wa.gov](http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov).

**Take the Career Quiz.** One way to explore this web site is to take the ***Career Quiz*** with your child. Using a computer at home, at school, or at the library, follow the instructions below to find the survey. You and your child can each complete the survey and compare the types of career areas that are identified for each of you. It might be fun to see the different types of careers your child could choose.

* Go to <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Survey_Cluster.aspx>
* Click on **Explore Careers** in the left box in the middle of the page.
* Click on the **Take A Quiz!** button at the top of the page.
* Complete the quiz by clicking on the interests, attributes, and subjects you like.
* Your results screen will show several different career areas that might be interesting to you. Click on a career area to learn more about it, and to learn about college programs in this career area.

**Learn more about community and technical colleges.** If you want to spend more time learning about the community and technical college options that are available in Washington State, visit the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges’s web site at [www.sbctc.edu](http://www.sbctc.edu). From there, you can learn more about:

* College cost comparisons.
* How to finance your child’s college education.
* How to help your child choose a career.
* How to determine what your child might earn in different careers.