

Guideposts for Success: Lesson Plans and Activities

Developed by the Institute for Educational Leadership

LESSON 28: CONNECTING EDUCATION TO OUR CAREERS

AT-A-GLANCE

Ultimately, getting young people excited about potential careers has the potential to get them excited about education. This culminating activity will allow students to develop their personal plan of action for the next steps in their career futures...connecting the dots between education and career growth.

Icebreaker

We know not where our dreams will take us, but we can probably see quite clearly where we'll go without them.

-Marilyn Grey

Icebreaker Discussion

What would our lives be like if we didn't have dreams?

Lesson/Activity (needs access to a computer/Internet)

This activity will use the Bureau of Labor Statistics "Career Exploration" Web site (<https://www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/careers/career-exploration.htm>), (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>), O*NET (<https://www.onetonline.org/>), and any other Web site students have been exposed to during the course of your program. Students will use these sites and any other means possible to research a career of interest. They will create a presentation (a PowerPoint, a video, a Web site, a story, a song or dance, a poster, or any other method of interest) to present no less than the following:

- What the job is like
- What type of preparation is needed for this career
- What types of academic subjects are related to the job
- How much the job pays
- What the job outlook is projected to be
- Where jobs can be found in your state

Students should be encouraged to be as creative as possible—and can work independently or with a teammate. Students should have the ability to evaluate/critique each other's presentation and offer "positives" and "puzzlers," i.e., what worked well and what needed more clarification.

Reflection

Do you think there is a correlation between education and career success? Why or why not? No matter your point of view, what are the career-related benefits to participating in post-secondary education?

Extension

Offer to videotape each student's presentation for them to use in their portfolio.