

Lesson Plan

Visualizing Your Dream Career

Sub-indicator 1.1 Career Exploration Planning

Common Core Standard

Students will be able to “produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience”

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.4](#)

Learning Objective(s)

Students will create a visual representation of their dream career, including the environment, responsibilities, level of social interaction, number of hours, etc.

Materials

- Teacher prepared slide show on job options as outlined in activity (must be created prior to lesson)
- Graphic Organizer for students (attached)
- Poster option: poster board, art supplies, magazines
- Slideshow option: computers with PowerPoint or Google Slides

Opening Activity – Whole Class, 10 Minutes

Activity Purpose

- Students will begin visualizing different options for their future career.
- Students will begin to understand and advocate for their interests, values, and preferences as it relates to their future.

Description of Activity

- Introduce the activity by saying, “Think of people you know and the jobs they have. Does anyone seem to have their dream job? How do you know it’s their dream job?”
- Have a slideshow of images prepared depicting various careers in different types of settings and responsibilities (e.g., inside/outside, movement/no movement, quiet/loud, lots of social interaction/minimal interaction, animals/people, computer/no computer, etc.).
- Share the slideshow with students. Have them use a graphic organizer (attached) to take notes on each slide, noting things they like or dislike about each image. At the end, have students review their notes and put stars by things that are especially important to them.



Opening Activity - continued

Assessment:

- Students will complete a graphic organizer of “likes” and “dislikes” for each option. This will allow students to start brainstorming their preferences, and also discern what types of career options they are interested in and why.
- Students will turn and talk with their desk partner and share what they liked and didn’t like and why.

Activity 1

Activity Purpose:

- Students will create a poster or virtual presentation of their “dream” career to visualize their interests and preferences for their future careers.

Description of Activity:

- Say: “So we just learned about different types of careers and explored what we liked and disliked about them. Now you are going to use your imagination and design the career of your dreams! You are going to create a poster/presentation that shows you working in your dream career.”
- **Option 1:** Students will create a poster that displays characteristics of their dream career. This poster can include all pictures, text, drawings and should describe:
 - What is your work environment?
 - What are your responsibilities?
 - What is the level of social interaction?
 - How many hours do you work?
 - What skills would you need to be successful?
 - **Extension:** Have students think about what kinds of entry level jobs could help them gain the experience they would need to progress toward their dream career.
 - **Note:** Visually display the above questions so that students can refer to them as they are working.
- **Option 2:** Students can use digital resources to create a visual of their dream career. This could be in the form of a Google Slide/PowerPoint, a collage created in a document, a mind map, or other option. It should address all the questions listed in option 1.
- **Tip:** Have students use the graphic organizer from their opening activity to help them with ideas. Prompt them to think about what they liked about the options they saw.

Assessment:

- Students will create a poster or visualization of their dream career that reflects the interests and preferences they identified during the opening activity.

Activity 2

Activity Purpose

- Students will present their dream career from Activity 1 to 2-3 peers.

Description of Activity

- Say: “You spent a lot of time thinking through and creating your dream career. I got to see how those careers were unique to you and what is important to you! We are going to share our dream careers with our peers, because they might want to pursue a similar career! Everyone has a different plan for their future, so it’s important to learn about what makes each of us unique!”
- Students will sit in a circle with 2-3 other peers and show them their project/presentation of their dream career. Students will explain their ideal:
 - Work environment
 - Responsibilities
 - Level of social interaction
 - Number of hours worked
 - Skills needed to be successful
 - **Extension:** If students finish early, they can discuss the kinds of entry level jobs that could help them gain the experience they would need to progress toward their dream career.

Assessment:

- Students are able to express their interests, values, and preferences and how those are related to their dream career through visuals and/or verbal explanation.

Closing Activity

Description of Activity:

- Say: “Thank you for sharing your dream schools with each other. As you shared, what did you have in common? Did you notice differences? Did you learn anything new about yourself or others?”
- Students share their reflections in small groups or as a full class.

