Career Readiness: Primary School Style

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- Pre-k through first grade students
  - Adding 2nd grade in 2020
- Approximately 255 students total
  - 6 sections of kindergarten and 6 sections of first grade
  - District is expanding-becoming more diverse
  - Free and Reduced lunch-40% (increasing)
- 3 day rotation for K-1 specials classes--approximately 30 minutes
  - 2 kindergarten and 2 first grade classes each day
Career Readiness in the Primary

- How do you get kindergarten and first grade students to start thinking about careers?
- What are the standards I need to teach?
- How can I make this engaging, effective, and get kids interested?

Make it meaningful!
Big Idea 7: Applying Career Exploration and Planning Skills in the Achievement of Life Career Goals

• Kindergarten:
  ○ Identify likes/dislikes at home and school.
  ○ Identify workers in the school and in families related to the six (6) career paths.
  ○ Recognize that all work is important.

• First Grade:
  ○ Identify strengths/interests at home and school.
  ○ Identify workers in the local community related to the six (6) career paths.
  ○ Explain the importance of jobs in the family and school.
Career Month, Not Career Day

- Volunteers from the community and parents come into the classroom to speak and present to students.
- Traditional vs. Non-Traditional
- Last year:
  - Scientist
  - Firefighter
  - Audiologist
  - Fitness Instructor
  - Horse trainer
  - Nurse Practitioner
  - Radio producer
  - Florist
  - Banker
  - Mechanical Engineer
  
  - Graphic Designer
  - X-ray Technician
  - Child Life Specialist
  - Nutritionist
  - Water Management Specialist
  - Chef
  - Countertop Installer
  - Truck Driver
  - Waitress
  - Police Officer
  - Farmer
  - Electrician
  - Lawyer
  - IT Personnel
  - Civil Engineer
  - Dental Hygienist
  - Hair Stylist
Career Month, Not Career Day
Starting My Unit - Pre/Post Test

- Teachers help with this activity.

- General ideas/thoughts towards careers.
  - Examples:
    - I pick a career based on what others tell me to do.
    - There are only 6 careers to choose from.
    - The job I pick comes from 1 career path.

- Randomly pick 5 students from each class.

- Same test after the unit.
Starting My Unit-First Lesson

● Build from their prior knowledge!
  ○ What is your job at school? Classroom Jobs?
  ○ What is your job at home?
  ○ Parents’ jobs? Grandparents’ jobs?
  ○ Community jobs?
● How/why did I become a school counselor?
● What do you want to be when you grow up?
  ○ Firefighter, teacher, doctor, police officer—traditional community jobs
  ○ Journaling activity-draw and write what you want to be when you grow up.
  ● I collect these and keep them for the end of my unit.
Journal Activity

- First page-What do you want to be when you grow up?

- Students use these throughout.
  - Things they want to remember, “notes,” drawings, etc.

- End of unit-What do you want to be when you grow up?
  - Compare the two. Did they change? Stay the same?
Career Paths

Missouri has identified six Career Paths as a way to help students become aware of and explore career options. These pathways are designed to help students make informed decisions about their education and future careers.

Career Clusters

Missouri uses 16 Career Clusters as a way of organizing occupational and academic opportunities into a manageable framework for students. These clusters are: Biotechnology, Information Technology, Audio and Video Technology, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Business Management, Natural Resources and Agriculture, Manufacturing, Health Science, Industrial and Engineering Technology, Human Services, Transportation, Science, Technology, and Architecture and Construction.

Career Pathways

Career Pathways are further grouped according to shared career-related skills or common roles. These groupings are called Career Pathways and include Associate and Technical Skills, Business Management and Administration, Information Technology, Natural Resources and Agriculture, Health Services, Industrial and Engineering Technology, Human Services, and Transportation.

Knowledge & Skill Statements

Knowledge and skill statements represent the skills and knowledge, both academic and technical, that all students should achieve for a given career area.
Career Paths

• Start with a game: place the worker clip art on the path you think it would be a part of

• Multiple career paths in one.
  • Example: Veterinarian—helping, health, nature

• Come up with their own ideas for each path with a partner

• Vote for favorite career path
Volunteer Process

• Email to parents
  • Try to sign up for 2 classes if possible.

• Contact local businesses

• Use the connections you have!
Prepare for Volunteers

- Discuss questions we could ask our guests.
  - What do you wear to your job?
  - What is your least favorite part?
  - How did you decide to choose this career?
  - What is your favorite part?
  - What kind of training/education did you have to get?
  - What does a typical day at your job look like?

- Explore reading materials with different careers to start brainstorming.
Typical Class

- Start with introduction
- Typically the presenter has something planned.
- Have students ask questions
  - I guide this process, since some questions can be off the wall.
  - What interests did you have?
  - What type of education?
- Choose what career path and have presenter agree/disagree and explain.
Typical Class
Typical Class
Books

• Ada Twist, Scientist- Andrea Beaty
  • Rosie Revere, Engineer
  • Iggy Peck, Architect
  • www.abramsbooks.com/adatwist/

• Career Day- Anne Rockwell

• When I Grow Up-Al Yankovic
  • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3GViCamOxk

• Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do- Kathryn Heling
More Books

- Whose Tools are These? - Sharon Katz Cooper
  - Whose Hat is This?
  - Whose Vehicle is This?

- Whose Hands are These? - Miranda Paul

- What Shoes Will You Wear? - Julia Cook
Videos

- Career Spotlights
  - USAgov on Youtube
  - Small clips

- Curious Kids
  - Lego artist
  - Marine biologist--location
Additional Resources

- Virginia Career View
  - [https://www.vaview.vt.edu/index.cfm](https://www.vaview.vt.edu/index.cfm)

- Missouri Connections
  - Career Trek (Grades 3-5)
Wrapping It Up

• Review of speakers, videos, resources
• Discuss favorite speaker and why
• Show each student their original work and have them reflect—do they still want to be that when they grow up? Why or why not?
• You don’t have to pick your job/career in kindergarten/first grade, but as you grow and learn, think of ideas that relate to what you enjoy, your interests, your strengths, etc.
Don’t Forget....

- Thank you notes for the speakers
  - My teachers are awesome!!

- Every career counts

- Make it meaningful and fun!
According to the Parents

• “It was great to share about my career with the students in my son’s class. They asked so many good questions and kept me on my toes. I feel that our school and community are intertwined, and this is just another way that we are welcome here!”

• “I wasn’t sure that kindergarten students would understand my career, but I was happily surprised! I am excited about the way that career prep is encouraged, even at this young age.”

• “The questions and engagement the children asked and projected brought me back to root reasons of why I love what career I was speaking on.”

• “School wasn’t really a fun place for me as a kid, so I was kind of scared to come speak. The joy that it brought my daughter for her to see me in her school helped me to put those fears to the side.”
Questions?

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Conference Updates

• Please complete the Workshop Evaluation:  http://bit.ly/2pS2YKq
• Please complete the Full Conference Evaluation:  http://bit.ly/2yGVzBy
• For more information on MSCA, like us on Facebook (mymasca) and follow us on Twitter (@myMSCA).
• Save the Date for the 2019 MSCA Fall Conference on November 3-5 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort.