

YOUSCIENCE: EXPLORING INTERESTS

Welcome, educators, to the YouScience lesson plan focused on student career exploration. In today's dynamic job market, it is vital for students to understand their unique interests and how these can map to potential careers. This guide provides a clear roadmap for implementing a lesson that fosters self-discovery, reflection, and empower students to envision a future aligned with their passions.



Presented by: YouScience

Adapted by: Career Connected Learning Resources Team



CONCLUSION



Through the YouScience lesson plan, students gain tools to discover and align their passions with potential career avenues. Your guidance, paired with this comprehensive lesson, will be instrumental in lighting the path for students as they journey through their unique career aspirations.

OVERVIEW

This 'YouScience: Exploring Interest' lesson provides a comprehensive framework where students delve into their career interests. They will first identify these interests, connect them with associated career clusters, and then participate in a gallery walk. This walk offers them an opportunity to share insights about related activities, skills, and traits.

As the lesson progresses, students engage in reflective discussions and wrap up with a visualization activity where they imagine their future careers.



RATIONALE



Why Teach This Lesson?

The transition from education to a fulfilling career is not always straightforward. With new career options and a rapidly evolving job market, it is imperative that students are equipped with the tools to understand their intrinsic interests and passions. The YouScience Career Interests lesson plan acts as a bridge, guiding students to think about their career interests, identify their potential, and visualize their trajectory in the professional world. This structured approach not only fosters self-awareness but also instills confidence in students, ensuring they are well-prepared and informed as they step into the future.

PREPARING MATERIALS



Materials Needed:

- Computer with Internet access and connection to projector.
- PDF Handout “Snippet Lesson - Exploring Interests (6th Grade Lesson)”
- Pens and Pencils
- Post-it notes of three different colors, with several of each available for each student.
- Large poster board or wall space divided into four separate sections labeled: 1,2, 3, and ?

Remember!!

Test your connection and login! Make sure you and your students are able to login to YouScience before class begins.



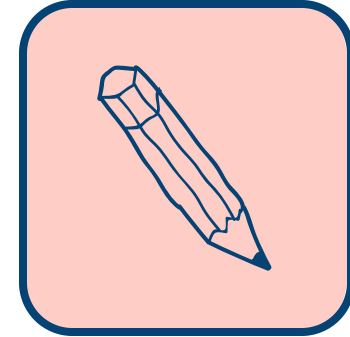
SHARING YOUR PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES



By the end, students should achieve the following objectives:

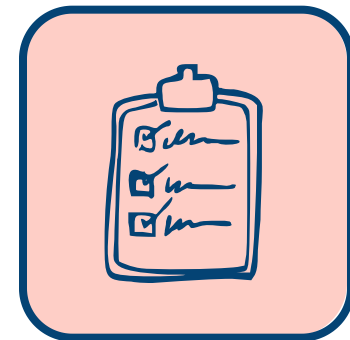
- 1) Students will be able to list their top three interest areas.
- 2) Students will be able to name career clusters that align with their interests.
- 3) Students will be able to identify a new career field of interest.

ACTION PLAN STEPS 1



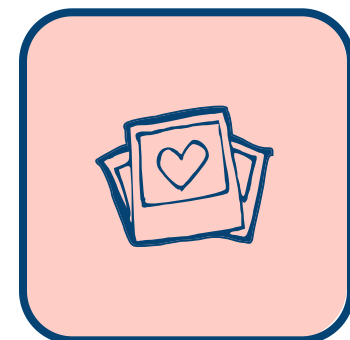
1) Identifying Top Interests:

- a. Students jot down their top three career interests on their handout.
- b. They rank these interests on post-it notes and display them on the labeled wall sections.



2) Identifying Career Clusters:

- a. Present the slide deck of career clusters.
- b. Students select and note down their top three clusters and an additional cluster of interest.
- c. Students display their career cluster choices on the wall.



3) Gallery Walk & Commentary:

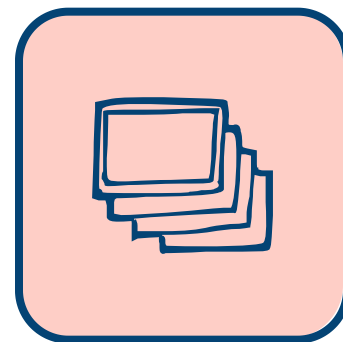
- a. Students brainstorm activities and skills related to their chosen career clusters.
- b. Using a new post-it note color, students add these comments next to their career interests on the wall.



4) Discussion and Reflection:

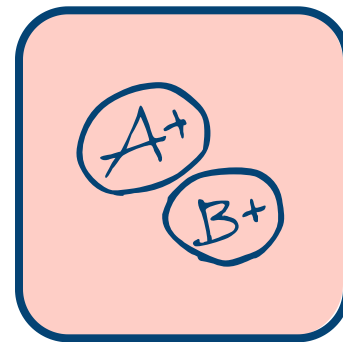
- a. Facilitate a discussion around the gallery walk.
- b. Students complete remaining handout questions, discussing in groups or as a class.

ACTION PLAN STEPS 2



5) Wrap Up:

- a. Collect student handouts.
- b. Photograph the wall display for future reference.



6) Closing Assessment Activity:

- a. Have students think to themselves about a career they would like to do based on their career cluster work sets.
- b. Have students share a career they are interested in and a quality they believe would help them succeed in that career.

STANDARDS OVERVIEW



Education standards provide a framework to ensure the lesson's effectiveness and relevance. The **ASCA Standards** integrated into this lesson focus on holistic student development. They stress the significance of the whole self, understanding the necessity of post-secondary education, critical thinking, perseverance, and effective communication, among other essential skills. On the other hand, the **OAR Rules** highlight the importance of tailoring education plans based on personal and career interests. They emphasize tracking academic progress, documenting achievements, and underscoring the value of comprehensive school counseling and career education.



Student Reflection Activity

Prompt students to reflect on:

New career fields they have discussed.

The alignment of their interests with potential careers.

Activities or hobbies they might cultivate to benefit future careers.



Here are a couple of questions to get you started:

- 1) What hobbies or activities can you take up now to build skills for your desired career?
- 2) What was the most challenging part of this lesson for you and why?
- 3) Were there any career clusters that surprised you or that you hadn't considered before?