

YOUSCIENCE: “I AM” COLLAGE

This quick guide introduces the “I Am” Collage activity, an exercise that enables students to visually showcase their talents, encouraging self-awareness and guiding them towards understanding their academic paths and potential careers.



Source: YouScience

Developed by: Career Connect Oregon Team



INTRODUCTION

This “I Am” Collage activity encourages students to reflect on and visually represent their talents using YouScience Discovery results. Through creating personalized collages, students deepen their self-awareness and understanding of their inherent strengths. This tool not only fosters introspection and creativity but also helps students contemplate potential academic and career directions.



PREPARATION & MATERIALS



Career Clusters Interest Survey Curriculum at Career Connect Oregon

The link above provides you with this quick-start guide, a lesson plan, a revised copy of the Career Clusters Interest Survey and a reflection activity. All materials are in digital PDF form and downloadable.

Oregon College Collaborative's Career Journey Maps

The link above goes to a supplemental set of downloadable PDFs that provides example job descriptions, suggestions for skill development and links to additional resources for each career cluster.

Supplemental Teaching Materials

In this quick-start guide and at the end of each lesson plan, we suggest alternative cooperative learning strategies, assessments and reflection activities for you to consider.

Equipment:

A computer, printer and copy machine to produce handouts for students.



ACTION PLAN



1) Setting the Stage:

- a. Ensure each student can log in to their YouScience account.
- b. Direct students to the 'Explore More of Your Talents' section on their homepage.
- c. Inform students about the importance of understanding their natural talents for personal growth and future career exploration.



2) Self-Discovery Phase:

- a. Hand out the "I Am" Worksheet to each student.
- b. Instruct students to fill in their first "I Am" statement based on the results they see after the words "You are".
- c. Encourage students to read the three insight statements describing how their talent benefits them.
- d. Students should select keywords or phrases from the insight statements for their collage. Remind them to search for meanings of unfamiliar words.
- e. Ask students to brainstorm or search for images that symbolize their chosen keywords/phrases and note them on the worksheet.
- f. Guide students to repeat the process for all five talent areas.

ACTION PLAN



3) Creation Phase:

- a. Distribute the “I Am” Collage template.
- b. Using the worksheet as a reference, students will:
 - Fill in each “I Am” statement.
 - Incorporate selected images and words onto the collage.
 - Optionally, label or explain images if they feel it’s needed.
- c. Emphasize creativity and personal expression during this phase.



4) Extending the Activity (Optional):

- a. Students can connect with peers who share at least two similar talents, highlighting both shared and unique abilities within the class.
- b. As a class, create graphs representing the diversity of talents to visualize commonalities and differences.
- c. Allow students to develop slides or other visual aids to delve deeper into one of their talent areas.

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.

[Link to the Career Connect Oregon Standards reference sheet.](#)

ASCA STANDARDS & OARS

Oregon defines the stages of career development through a system of Career Connected Learning (CCL), a framework of career awareness, exploration, preparation and training that is both learner-relevant and directly linked to professional and industry-based expectations. CCL connects the interests, aptitudes, education, and goals of every Oregon youth to their future. Each of the following standards can be applied to the academic, career, social/emotional, and community involvement domains.

ASCA: K-12 CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS FOR EVERY STUDENT	OARS, SIMPLIFIED
<p>M Mindsets Standards M 1. Belief in development of whole self, including a healthy balance of mental, social/emotional and physical well-being M 2. Sense of acceptance, respect, support and inclusion for self and others in the school environment M 3. Positive attitude toward work and learning M 4. Self-confidence in ability to succeed M 5. Belief in using abilities to their fullest to achieve high-quality results and outcomes M 6. Understanding that postsecondary education and lifelong learning are necessary for long-term success</p> <p>LS Learning Strategies B-LS 1. Critical thinking skills to make informed decisions B-LS 2. Creative approach to learning, tasks and problem solving B-LS 3. Time-management, organizational and study skills B-LS 4. Self-motivation and self-direction for learning B-LS 5. Media and technology skills to enhance learning B-LS 6. High-quality standards for tasks and activities B-LS 7. Long- and short-term academic, career and social/emotional goals B-LS 8. Engagement in challenging coursework B-LS 9. Decision-making informed by gathering evidence, getting others’ perspectives and recognizing personal bias B-LS 10. Participation in enrichment and extracurricular activities</p> <p>SMS Self-Management Skills B-SMS 1. Responsibility for self and actions B-SMS 2. Self-discipline and self-control B-SMS 3. Independent work B-SMS 4. Delayed gratification for long-term rewards B-SMS 5. Perseverance to achieve long- and short-term goals B-SMS 6. Ability to identify and overcome barriers B-SMS 7. Effective coping skills B-SMS 8. Balance of school, home and community activities B-SMS 9. Personal safety skills B-SMS 10. Ability to manage transitions and adapt to change</p> <p>SS Social Skills B-SS 1. Effective oral and written communication skills and listening skills B-SS 2. Positive, respectful and supportive relationships with students who are similar to and different from them B-SS 3. Positive relationships with adults to support success B-SS 4. Empathy B-SS 5. Ethical decision-making and social responsibility B-SS 6. Effective collaboration and cooperation skills B-SS 7. Leadership and teamwork skills to work effectively in diverse groups B-SS 8. Advocacy skills for self and others and ability to assert self, when necessary B-SS 9. Social maturity and behaviors appropriate to the situation and environment B-SS 10. Cultural awareness, sensitivity and responsiveness</p>	<p>1. Students should develop an education plan that identifies personal and career interests, tentative educational and career goals, and post-high school next steps. (S81-022-2000: 6a)</p> <p>2. Students should design, monitor, and adjust a course of study that meets their interests and goals. (S81-022-2000: 6a,D)</p> <p>3. Students should monitor and track progress toward standards, including content standards, essential skills, and extended application standards. (S81-022-2000: 6b,A)</p> <p>4. Students must participate in career-related learning experiences outlined in the education plan. (S81-022-2000: 8)</p> <p>5. School districts must provide a coordinated comprehensive school counseling program that includes career-related learning standards and career education as part of their K-12 instructional program to support the academic, career, social-emotional, and community involvement development of each and every student. (OAR 581-022-2030: 2d,e; 581-022-2055; 581-022-2060, 1a)</p>

DIVERSE LEARNING STYLES & COOPERATIVE STRATEGIES

Encourage students to explore different ways to organize information and cooperate with their peers. Each Career Connect Oregon lesson plan comes embedded with these strategies.

These tools can improve engagement in classrooms, trainings, in-services, and conferences, too!

[Link to the Career Connect Oregon Best Practices Quick Reference packet.](#)



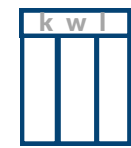
GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS



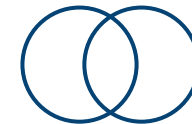
OUTLINE



MIND MAP



KWL CHART



VENN DIAGRAM



STORYBOARD



CHARTS



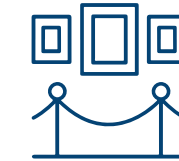
TIMELINE

COOPERATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES



THINK-PAIR-SHARE

Students think, talk with peers, then share with the class.



GALLERY WALK

Students walk around the room reflecting on one another's posted work.



3 STAY - 1 STRAY

One member from each group visits other groups, acting as a reporter and exchanging information.



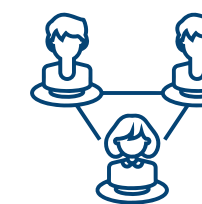
FOUR CORNERS

Students self-sort, moving near statements posted in the room they agree with and discuss reactions.



JIGSAW

Groups become "experts" in one aspect of a learning objective.



NUMBERED HEADS TOGETHER

Students in groups collaborate to ensure mutual understanding, each prepared to answer a question tied to their assigned number.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES

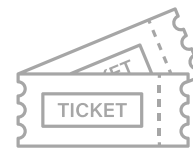


Varying assessments can keep your lessons fun and engaging while ensuring they meet your lesson's objectives. The following assessments offer different ways to assess students. Choose assessments that best match your circumstances.

[Link to the Career Connect Oregon Best Practices Quick Reference packet.](#)

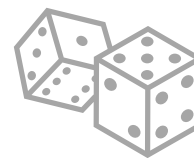
QUICK REFERENCE ASSESSMENTS

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EXIT TICKET

Students respond to a prompt or question on a 3x5 card or slip of paper before leaving class.



INTERACTIVE GAMES

Students play an analog or digital game that tests their learning competitively or cooperatively.



MULTIMEDIA PROJECT

Students create slide decks, videos, posters, drawings, diagrams, how-to guides, and mini publications.



QUIZZES

True or false, multiple choice, short answer, thumbs up or down, and verbal responses are all ways to quickly assess student learning.



WRITTEN RESPONSES

Short essays (descriptive, narrative, persuasive), poems, advertisements, menus, and speeches are all useful ways to show learning.



DISCUSSION

Small group, individual, and whole-class Socratic seminars help students stay engaged and practice reasoning skills.



ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Try planned or impromptu oral presentations. Students can develop these in groups or on their own.



POLLS

Hands, fingers, thumbs, and pen and paper are great for analog polls. Digital polls are convenient for tallying results quickly.



RANKING ACTIVITIES

Students rank items and explain their reasoning. A great way to measure critical thinking skills.



OBSERVATION

This can include both teacher and student perspectives, along with student self-reflection and peer feedback.

STUDENT REFLECTION USING EXIT TICKETS



Formative assessments can help students build confidence and critical thinking skills, while providing teachers with real-time feedback they can use to enhance further instruction. Modify these exit ticket suggestions to best suit your classroom!



SIGHT

- **Draw an emoji** of your emotional response to the lesson. Write about how it relates to what you learned.
- **Take a selfie** of an expression reacting to something you learned and share it!
- **Draw a visual summary** of images that narrate the lesson. This could be a comic strip or an infograph.
- **Recall a movie scene** that relates to the lesson and explain why.
- **Label a line graph** with peaks and valleys describing how you and other students engaged with the lesson.



SOUND

- **Think of song lyrics** that describe something you learned and explain your reasoning.
- **Listen to a brief audio clip** (music, quote, sounds) and explain how it connects to what you have learned.
- **Record yourself** sharing a 20-second response to your favorite part of the lesson.
- **Listen to a peer** share their favorite part of the lesson, and then share yours with them.
- **Connect a sound** to your mood during the lesson and explain how the sound relates.



SMELL

- **Create a smell continuum** with your favorite and least favorite smells; rate the lesson and explain.
- **Use scented markers or stickers**, and make a connection between the scent and a key concept.
- **Relate the lesson to a specific scent**, explaining the similarities and reasons behind your choice.
- **Choose 3 main ideas**, and relate them to 3 different smells. Explain your reasoning.



TASTE

- **Create a recipe**, choosing ingredients from the lesson. Name the recipe with a relevant title.
- **Use a food metaphor or simile** to describe something you learned in the lesson.
- **Divide a paper plate** into portions and label each portion with key concepts from the lesson.
- **Recall a food memory** related to the lesson and write down why you chose it.



TOUCH

- **Use the provided material** (blocks, clay, wire) to build a concept from the lesson that stood out to you.
- **Give a thumbs up, down or sideways** to indicate your level of understanding after the lesson.
- **Move around the room** to defend, challenge, or qualify your level of agreement with an argument or concept.
- **Build a collage** that represents the most important takeaways from the lesson.
- **Act out a concept** from the lesson that you think is most important.



THOUGHT

- **Agree or disagree** with a prompt and write down your reasons with examples.
- **Write about a personal connection** you can make with today's lesson and the concepts you have learned.
- **3-2-1** Jot down three ideas you learned, two ideas you want to learn and one question you have.
- **Select an adjective** that best describes the lesson. Explain your reasoning.
- **Write important ideas** from the lesson and rank them in terms of importance.