CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

For younger students, deciding on career opportunities can be challenging. With so many possibilities available, students may not be sure what types of jobs would be the best fit for them. Career quizzes are designed to help people decide what career paths best match their personality and working style. In a career quiz, a person answers a series of questions and then receives a list of careers that could be a good match. Using these results, a person can do more research to explore professional opportunities.

In this week’s Teacher’s Corner, students will practice reading as they take a career quiz and then practice speaking as they report to the class on a career that they learned about.

LEVEL
Intermediate to Advanced

LANGUAGE FOCUS
Reading (primary focus); Speaking (secondary focus)

GOALS
Students will practice reading and using career-related vocabulary through

- Taking a career quiz
- Exploring jobs of interest to them based on the results of the quiz
- Delivering a brief presentation on a job they discovered that is of interest to them

MATERIALS
- Teacher: computer with Internet connection, projector
- Students: computer with Internet connection (computer lab if possible), notebook, pen or pencil

PREPARATION

1. Read through all the materials carefully.
2. Prior to using this week’s activity in class, be sure to take the online career quiz. Check the quiz for vocabulary or terminology on which students may have questions.
3. Consider your teaching context. If you have access to a computer lab, have the students take the quiz at the same time. If you have limited access to computers with Internet, consider having the students complete Part One of this activity outside of class as homework.

**PART ONE: CAREER QUIZ**

1. On a whiteboard or chalkboard, write the web address of the career quiz:
   
   www.careerbridge.wa.gov/Survey_Cluster.aspx

2. Have the students enter the web address above into their computer’s web browser. Once students have reached the page, have them wait until the entire class is ready to take the quiz.

3. Once everyone has navigated to the career quiz, have the students begin the quiz. As they work on the quiz, be sure to move around the room to help students with any questions they may have.
   
   a. **Note:** Each question on the quiz has two parts: a large box to the left has the first half of the question, and a smaller box to the right of the screen has the second half of the question. The first half of the question asks about interests or activities; the second half of the question asks about personal qualities. Be sure students answer both parts of each question.

4. After students have completed the 16 questions of the quiz, they will receive a list of results. Types of careers will be ranked and listed based on the students’ answers.

5. Have the students explore their results and encourage them to click on the careers suggested. Clicking on a career type will present the student with a list of jobs within that career path. Students can then click on a specific job and find specific information about that job.

6. Provide students time to browse their suggested career options. Have the students write down two career choices that they found interesting. Under each of those career choices, have the students write down two or three jobs that seem most interesting to them.
PART TWO: HOMEWORK

1. For homework, have the students research the career paths and jobs they selected. After they complete their research, students should select one of the jobs they researched to be the subject of a speech to the rest of the class.
   a. **Note:** Students can research these jobs by reading more about them on the Internet and taking notes about the specifics of each job.

2. Inform the students that for this homework assignment, they should answer the following questions:
   a. Where do people with this job usually work?
   b. What type of education is needed for this job? (Only high school? University?)
   c. What makes this job interesting to you?
   d. What is one interesting fact that you learned about this job?

3. Encourage the students to write down any other information they find interesting about the job to share with the rest of the class.

4. Explain to the students that after they have collected information about the jobs they listed, they should select the job most interesting to them and present the information they learned to the class in a short speech or presentation.
   a. **Note:** If a computer and projector are available, have the students create a short presentation with pictures of the job to share with the class.

PART THREE: JOB SPEECH

1. For this part of the activity, have the students come to the front of the class and share the information they learned about the job they selected.
   a. **Note:** If time permits have the students show pictures about the job they have decided to share.

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2. Encourage the other students to ask questions about the job or to share any information they may have learned about similar jobs.