

Back-to-School Lesson

Get to know your class and begin exploring career interests

Grades: 6 - 12		Subject: Multiple	Topic: Career
Lesson Summary: Students will learn more about their class and begin thinking about their career interests. Students will first listen to their teacher's career/education journey. Then they will participate in a class discussion where they share their own career interests. Last, the class will read advice from professionals on CareerVillage.org about how to begin career exploration.			
Materials Needed: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Paper and pencil for each student2. Student access to CareerVillage Question 1 and Question 2 (either send links or print out)		Learning Objective: Students will get to know more about their teacher and classmates by engaging in a discussion about their career interests.	

Lesson Structure

Intro/ Hook 5 mins	Class Vote: "Do you think my dream in high school was to become a teacher? Yes or No." <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3-4 students share why they voted that way• Reveal the answer to the question <p><i>Say: Today we will be participating in an activity that will help you learn more about my own career journey, and start to think about your career interests and goals.</i></p>
Teacher Story 15 mins	Instructor tells about their career journey using prompts below. (Optional: display pictures of yourself during these different stages of life) What did you want to be when you were little? What kind of student were you in high school? What was your first job? What did you study in college? How did you become a teacher? Do you want to continue to teach in the future?

<p>Class Activity 10 mins</p>	<p>Class Vote: How many of you know right now what you want to do with your future career?</p> <p>Activity: All students share what their dream job is.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain that this job does not have to be realistic - it could be anything! • Be very clear that it is okay if they can't think of an answer <p>(Note: students can engage in this activity in whatever way you see best. This could be in pairs, whole group, think and share, whip around, answer this prompt, etc.)</p>
<p>CareerVillage Reading 25 mins</p>	<p>Say: <i>CareerVillage.org</i> a website where students can ask any question about planning for college or career, and professionals from all different industries and parts of the world log on to answer those questions.</p> <p>Provide students access to these two pages on CareerVillage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How do you know if you are on the right path? 1) I don't know what to do. <p>Have students read and then spend 5 minutes writing down their reflections to these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can you relate to how these students, Christine and Natalie, are feeling? 2. Did any of the advice written by professionals on CareerVillage resonate with you? 3. Do you have to know exactly what you career you want right now?
<p>Closing 5 mins</p>	<p>Provide students time to discuss:</p> <p>Based on what you learned from my career story and the advice written by professionals on CareerVillage, what are some small steps we can take towards planning for our future?</p> <p>Say: <i>In the future we can sign up to CareerVillage and begin asking our own questions. Throughout the year we will continue to talk about the things that interest us, our goals for the future, and make a plan together for how we can achieve those goals. Hopefully we will continue to learn more about each other along the way!</i></p>