

SOUTH CAROLINA CAREER GUIDANCE EFFECTIVE EXERCISES

TITLE: WORKING TOGETHER

SUBJECT: Guidance Activity

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6-8

SC Career Guidance Standard/Competency

- Learning to Work: Standard 4. Students will demonstrate a positive attitude toward work and the ability to work together.

Competency 4.2. Explain the importance of interpersonal relationships

National Career Development Guidelines Goal/Indicator

- Personal Social Development: GOAL PS2. Develop positive interpersonal skills and respect for diversity.

Indicator PS2.A4. Demonstrate the ability to get along with others and work effectively with them in groups.

Lesson Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively together on a group project.

Assessment

1. Students will complete the group presentation and the service learning project (optional).
2. Students will complete the *Working In Groups* and the *Science/Career Connection* worksheets.

Preparation

- Prior Learning—Science unit on environment/natural resources
- Handouts/Worksheets—*Tips for Working in a Group*, *Working In Groups* and *Science /Career Connection* worksheets
- Resources—Guest speakers (e.g., gardener, farmer, landscape architect, forest ranger, park commissioner, environmental protection officer, park commissioner, and ecologist) and service learning site (optional)
- Time Required—90-120 minutes plus service learning project (optional)

Procedures

Note: This activity will take place over several days.

Part One (10 minutes)

- Introduce guest speakers and the occupation each represents.
- Assign small groups of students to interview each speaker.
- Give students the *Science /Career Connection* worksheet and review it with them.
- Tell students they will give a group presentation about their speaker and how his/her career relates to science.

Part Two (30 minutes)

- Ask the guest speakers to tell the students about the work they do. They should focus on how they help protect natural resources and the environment. Ask them to also address the need for good interpersonal skills and the importance of working together with others at their jobs.

Part Three (45-60 minutes)

- Give students the *Tips for Working in a Group* handout and review it with them.
- Explain your expectations for their group presentation (i.e., overview of the occupation, how it relates to science, and how working together is important on the job).
- Have students prepare their reports and give a 5 minute group presentation to the class.
- Compare and contrast the occupations. What do they have in common? How are they different?
- Have students complete the *Working In Groups* worksheet.
- Discuss how students felt about working in groups and what they learned about being a team member.

Part Four (Optional—Service Learning Activity)

- Engage students in a service learning project to beautify the school grounds or a community area that would require students to demonstrate their ability to work with others on a project while applying some of the science concepts from the unit on the environment/natural resources.

Science/Career Connection

Name: _____

Date: _____

Career Name _____

Directions: Part 1—Describe how this career relates to protecting the environment/natural resources.

Part 1

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Directions: Part 2—List reasons why having good interpersonal skills and being able to work together with others are important for this career.

Part 2

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Directions: Part 3—Think about what your career speaker told you. Then answer the questions below.

Part 3

Career Name _____

1. What do you like best about this career?
2. What do you like least about this career?
3. How does the career match with your career interests?
4. What skills and abilities do you need for this career?
5. What high school courses would help you prepare for this career?
6. What education/training after high school is required for this career?
7. What is the salary range for this career? _____
8. What is the employment outlook for this career in your local area? ____
In South Carolina? _____ Nationally? _____
9. What are your strengths and personal qualities that "fit" with this career?
10. What would you need to improve to "fit" with this career?

Tips for Working in a Group

1. Choose a group leader. This person should be organized, responsible, and considerate. The leader should encourage all students to participate.
2. Listen to each other. Give everyone a chance to be heard.
3. Be organized. Brainstorm ideas and write them down. Be creative.
4. Gather information. Each student should contribute something that the career speaker said.
5. Solve problems in a diplomatic way. Be fair.
6. Respect the feelings of other people in the group. Try to control your temper.
7. Demonstrate tolerance and flexibility. When you disagree, negotiate with each other.
8. Share how you feel about what the group is doing and how things are working.
9. Have a good time.

Working in Groups

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Answer the following questions.

1. What did you learn about working in a group?

2. What did you contribute to your group presentation?

3. Were there any disagreements within the group? If yes, how were they resolved?

4. Do you like working in a group? Yes _____ No _____
What are your reasons?

5. What kind of behavior was helpful to the group's completing the project?

6. What kind of behavior made it harder for the group to complete the project?