

SOUTH CAROLINA CAREER GUIDANCE EFFECTIVE EXERCISES

TITLE: PARENTS FOR CAREER DAY

SUBJECT: Guidance Activity

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6-8

SC Career Guidance Standard/Competency

Learning to Work Standard 1. Students will understand the relationship among personal qualities, education, training and the world of work.

Competency 1.4. Identify a variety of traditional and nontraditional careers

National Career Development Guidelines Goal/Indicator

• Career Management: GOAL CM3. Use accurate, current, and unbiased career information during career planning and management.

Indicator CM4. K3. Recognize that a variety of general employability skills and personal qualities (e.g., critical thinking, problem solving, interpersonal skills, honesty, and dependability) are important to success in school and employment.

Indicator CM3. K5. Identify occupations that you might consider without regard to your gender, race, culture, or ability.

Lesson Objectives

1. Students will learn about occupations through interviews at a career fair.
2. Students will relate personal qualities to career choices and workplace success.
3. Students will increase awareness of occupations in the community.

Assessment

1. Students will conduct a career interview with at least two speakers at the career fair.
2. Students will complete the *Career Fair Speaker Questionnaire* and the *Dream Job—Making Connections* worksheets.
4. Students will write a short essay about the relationship between general employability skills, personal qualities, and success in the workplace.

Preparation

- Prior Learning—Introduction to Employability Skills and Personal Qualities
- Handouts/Worksheets—*Career Fair Speaker Questionnaire* and *Dream Job—Making Connections* worksheets
- Resources—Career fair speakers (parents of students), school approved career speaker invitation letter, space and logistical arrangements for the career fair, Optional: SCOIS, O*Net (www.onetcenter.org), career information books/videos
- Time Required—15 minutes for career fair orientation, 60 minutes for career fair visit, 45 minutes for worksheet and discussion, home assignment (essay)

Procedures

Part One

• Make arrangements for the career fair. Parents of the students are great potential resources for the career fair. Consider coordinating the event with the STW Coordinator. Send speakers a copy of the *Career Fair Speaker Questionnaire*. Ask the speakers to be sure to mention the personal qualities and general employability skills needed for success in the workplace.

Part Two (15 minutes—career fair orientation, career fair visit—60 minutes)

- Meet briefly with students before they visit the career fair and review with them the general employability skills and personal qualities that are key to success in any job.
- Give students two copies of the *Career Fair Speaker Questionnaire* worksheet and review it with them. Tell them to interview two speakers and complete the form for each.

Part Three (45 minutes)

- After the career fair, engage students in a discussion of their experience. Have them share the highpoints of their interviews.
- Continue discussion by listing of all the different types of jobs the speakers represented.
- Brainstorm with students what personal qualities and employability skills are important to the jobs.
- Have students complete the *Dream Job—Making Connections* worksheet.
- Coordinate with the Language Arts teacher to have students write a short essay about their best personal qualities and general employability skills that relate to success in the workplace (home assignment).
- Optional: Suggest to students that they might use SCOIS, O*Net, or visit the library to further explore occupations.

Career Fair

Speaker Questionnaire

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Use this guide for your career interview. Be sure that you get the information you need to answer all of the questions. Write your answers in the spaces below each question. Remember to be polite and to listen carefully.

Occupation _____

1. What do you do in a typical day at your job?

2. What kind of education/training do you need to do your job?

3. What high school subjects should I take to prepare for a career in this field?

4. What personal qualities are most important to be successful in this job?

5. What general employability skills are most important to be successful in this job?
6. What is the salary range for this occupation?
7. What is the employment outlook for this occupation?
8. How have changes in technology affected your job?
9. What do you like best about your job?
10. What is the hardest part of your job?

Dream Job—Making Connections

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Choose a dream job and write its name on the "Occupation" line. List your best personal qualities and the general employability skills you now have. Describe ways you could use them in your dream job.

Occupation _____

[illegible]

