

ASSIGNMENT 6

Plan Your Career Path



1. Do the activities listed in the Assignments box.
2. Type in your work in the spaces provided below.

Assignments	Due Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment 6: Plan Your Career Path 	

Assignment 6: Plan Your Career Path

<p>1. Read this edition of the <i>Jobs of the Future</i> magazine.</p>	<p>Page 3</p>
<p>2. Complete Do What You Love for a career on the last page of the magazine.</p>	
<p>3. Complete the Find Your “Right Now” Job activity sheet. You can use the resources listed below for your research.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>📄 ONLINE RESOURCES TO GUIDE APPRENTICESHIP RESEARCH Start here—and see if your school has other career exploration resources!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore real job listings of apprenticeships (to see a wide variety, leave out your location during your search): apprenticeship.gov • Learn more about apprenticeships for high school students: apprenticeship.gov/educators/high-school • Check out careers that match your interests using cool customized search tools: mynextmove.org • Get information about which industries have the most new jobs: bls.gov/ooh/ </div>	<p>Page 7</p>
<p>4. Reflect on your research by answering the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do you notice a pattern in the types of jobs that appeal to you? Describe it! 	

- Which qualifications or skills were relevant to many different job positions? Why do you think that is?
- Share one thing you learned from this activity that surprised you and why.

5. Complete the Make Your Own Dream Board activity sheet.

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Project: Using magazines and drawings, build your dream board by creating an inspiring collage of words and images about your future career. You can create it on paper or large poster board. Then hang it up where you'll see it every day so you can stay inspired!

6. Final Project: Wrap up this unit on careers by focusing on your own future career. **Complete** the Interview Your Future Self activity sheet. Then use your answers to turn your interview into one of the following:

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- A written interview in the style of a magazine article.
- A recorded interview as a podcast or video. You can act out both sides of the interview or ask someone else for help.
- A digital interview using a digital storytelling app

For Families: Discuss Future Careers

Discuss careers with your family members—and use the resources to investigate youth apprenticeships you may be able to have in the future.

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JOBS OF THE FUTURE



**3 TEENS DOING
(AWESOME!)
APPRENTICESHIPS**

**QUIZ: FIND YOUR
DREAM JOB!**

EARN AND LEARN!

Get this: You can try out a career while still in school, get paid for it, and find out what you want to be when you grow up—through an apprenticeship.

Did you know that you can earn money to learn new skills—while still in school? You absolutely can. With a youth apprenticeship, you can get a paycheck while gaining skills that could lead to a good-paying job.

Teens who are 16 and older can use a youth apprenticeship to get a jump start on a career while still in high school. Interested in job training while earning income, an industry-recognized credential (which proves to employers you've got serious skills), and possibly even free college credits? Youth apprenticeships offer you hands-on learning, in a real workplace with coworkers and mentors, and a way into fields with job growth. "Apprenticeships provide students with relevant school-day, after-school, and summer work, and the opportunity to gain permanent employment



or acceptance into an advanced education program after high school," says Ken Frazier, program director at Rochester Regional Health in New York.

What are some hot fields that also have opportunities for youth apprenticeships? Careers where jobs are growing fast include: information technology and cybersecurity; advanced manufacturing and aerospace; energy; health sciences; finance and business; architecture and construction; and hospitality, lodging, and tourism.



"I see surgeries in person."

Yamilex Morales | age 17 | senior

Health care apprentice

What do you do as an apprentice?

I rotate among different departments at Rochester Regional Health in New York, so I've worked in pediatrics with kids, and in cardiology among heart patients. I've learned to take people's vital signs, like their blood pressure and temperature. My current assignment is my favorite: the

operating room. I help the operating room get ready for surgical procedures. I also help restock the carts that contain sterile surgical tools and instruments.

What do you like about the job?

It's exciting! I've seen several surgeries up close. I recently got to watch the removal of a patient's tumor with robotic surgery.

How do you fit in apprenticing with school?

I go to school for a full day, then several days a week I take the city bus to my apprenticeship and work there for four hours. I'll rotate through more departments and graduate from the program at the end of my senior year with a certificate and 2,000 hours of experience in health care to show an employer.



An apprenticeship offers hands-on learning in a real workplace with coworkers and mentors.

Maybe you have ideas about what you want to be when you grow up, or maybe you don't. A youth apprenticeship can help you nurture a passion or discover a career. To find out more, have your parent speak to your school administrator. Trusted adults can help you look online for your state's youth apprenticeship programs. And for serious inspiration, check out these teens who are finishing high school while making youth apprenticeships work for them!

Photo credit: © (top) SoStock/Getty Images; (right) Photo courtesy of Commonwealth Office of Technology in Frankfort, KY; (bottom) photo courtesy of Corliss Barnister, Trident Technical College



“Cybersecurity is like learning clues in a game.”

Gar Hunter | 18 | senior

Information technology (IT) apprentice

What drew you to apprenticing in IT?

I was always fascinated with computers, so when a teacher told me about this opportunity I applied. I started apprenticing the summer before senior year at the Commonwealth Office of Technology, a state government office in Frankfort, Kentucky. I'm a hands-on learner plus technology is a field that changes rapidly, so I'm learning things on the job that a textbook alone can't keep up with. I go to my high school classes for half the day and spend the other half apprenticing.

What are some of the things you've learned?

Working in IT is a little like being a detective. People might simply say their computer is “broken,” so I have to find out the issue before I can fix it. I help set up computers for the person using it next. That includes wiping hard drives; I completely clean them of data for security reasons. Lately, I've been learning to strip old parts from laptops and work in new parts, to help each computer last as long as possible.

What else have you learned?

I used to think I wanted to be a programmer, but now I want to work in cybersecurity. I like keeping information protected and the idea of learning how to detect unwanted activity. I've also learned how to speak up and ask questions so I can learn to the best of my abilities and how to accept criticism. I plan to finish my apprenticeship to earn a certificate and possibly take a gap year before college to get more on-the-job experience.

“I love talking to all the new people I meet every day.”

Carson Kosar | age 17 | senior

Hotel operations apprentice

How did you learn about apprenticeship?

I saw a school flyer and then met with a counselor. I wasn't sure what I wanted to be when I graduated, but I have good time-management skills and I'm a social person. Hotel operations looked interesting to me, and we agreed it might be a good fit. I apprentice at Hyatt Place, in North Charleston, South Carolina.



What is apprenticing like at a hotel?

Every day is different because the hospitality industry is changing constantly, and I kind of do everything. I answer the phones at the front

desk, serve coffee to business travelers, troubleshoot technical problems, and I try to be prepared for large groups coming to the hotel.

What skills have you learned?

I'm always practicing time management, to balance school and work. And I'm using hospitality skills I learn in class in real life, such as patience, empathy, how to make conversation, being genuinely kind, and especially really *listening* to guests, coworkers, and your boss when they give you constructive criticism, and learning from it.

DO WHAT YOU LOVE FOR A CAREER

Doing what you like can guide you to the perfect career. Check the activities below that seem most interesting, then see where you have the most picks.

ARTISTIC

- Write books or movie scripts
- Create movie special effects
- Compose, arrange, or play music
- Paint sets for plays
- Draw pictures

BUSINESS-MINDED

- Manage a store
- Market a new line of clothing
- Start your own business
- Represent a client in a lawsuit
- Sell stocks and bonds

HANDS-ON

- Set up and operate machines
- Build things with tools
- Assemble electronic parts
- Repair appliances
- Put out forest fires

HELPING OTHERS

- Teach kids sign language or your favorite subject
- Help people with their personal or emotional problems
- Show someone how to play sports
- Help someone recover from an injury
- Do volunteer work

INVENTIVE

- Create a healthier alternative to sugar
- Develop a new medicine
- Investigate the cause of a fire
- Conduct chemical experiments
- Do laboratory tests

IS THIS JOB FOR YOU?

Here are some ideas to start your exploration.

- **Artistic** architect; graphic designer; music director; video game designer; sound engineering technician; author
- **Business-Minded** real estate sales agent; spa manager; marketing manager; fitness and wellness coordinator; financial manager; meeting and event planner; paralegal
- **Hands-On** solar energy system engineer; manufacturing engineer; IT security analyst; aerospace engineering and operations technician; forester
- **Helping Others** health educator; teacher; athletic trainer; social worker; nurse; school psychologist
- **Inventive** forensic science technician; fire investigator; medical and clinical laboratory technician; web developer

SHOW ME THE MONEY!

So how much money does the average American make? Answer: \$48,251.57 per year. How far that money will go depends on the cost of living in the area where you live.

Check out these median annual salaries in fields that often offer youth apprenticeships.



Aerospace engineering and operations technician
\$67,010



Computer programmer
\$84,280



Emergency medical technician (EMT)
\$34,320



Information security analyst
\$98,350



Licensed practical nurse (LPN)
\$46,240



Meeting/convention/
event planner
\$49,370



Surgical technologist
\$47,300

Find Your “Right Now” Job

Instructions Consider your skills and interests and select a career to focus on. Then, using the prompts and online resources your teacher provided, research criteria for jobs or apprenticeships related to that career.

JOB/Apprenticeship title #1	Job/Apprenticeship title #2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the job/apprenticeship description in the space below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the job/apprenticeship description in the space below:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the eligibility requirements/ qualifications (e.g., education, skills, prior job training)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the eligibility requirements/ qualifications (e.g., education, skills, prior job training)?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What skills is this employer looking for? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What skills is this employer looking for?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some of the things that appeal to you about this position? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some of the things that appeal to you about this position?



Make Your Own Dream Board!

This is your planning sheet for developing an inspirational collage that reflects your vision for the future. (Create your collage on separate paper or a poster board.)

STEP 1

- In the first column, write skills that you've relied on while tackling chores at home and responsibilities at school. Include skills you've gained from small jobs or community service you've done so far!
- In the second column, write down things you love to do or would like to learn more about.

SKILLS (SOFT AND HARD)	INTERESTS AND PASSIONS

 <h3>STEP 2</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write two or three career-related goals, including jobs that seem like a good fit and apprenticeships you'd like to explore. • Use magazines, newspapers, or the internet to find images that represent your goals or inspire you in some way. 	 <h3>STEP 3</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brainstorm words that help motivate you to achieve your goals. In addition to your skills and passions, these words could include job titles, fields of interest, or career-related words you find empowering. • Cut or print out words, or handwrite them.

<h2>STEP 4</h2> <p>Build your dream board by creating an inspiring collage of words and images on your poster board.</p>
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Interview Your Future Self

What job will you have in 20 years? Plan out a mock interview with an older version of yourself.



Part A: Ask Questions

Ask your future self the three questions below, then add your own in the remaining three spaces. Be specific! Use a separate sheet of paper if you need more space.

QUESTION	RESPONSE
1. What is your career?	
2. What parts of your job do you like the most?	
3. What activities did you love as a kid— and how did they inspire your career choice?	
4. What kind of training or apprenticeship did you do to prepare for your career?	
5. Add your own question here	
6. Add your own question here	



Part B: Create Your Final Interview

Choose one of the following options:




Write your interview in the style of a magazine article . Read the interviews in <i>Jobs of the Future</i> (bit.ly/jobsfuture5) for inspiration.	Record your interview as a podcast or video . You can act out both sides of the interview or ask someone else for help.	Use a digital storytelling app to create your interview.
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It's never too soon
for your child to
learn about careers.

DEAR FAMILY,

Your child has been learning about careers and pathways to different occupations as part of the *Jobs of the Future* program from the U.S. Department of Labor. One great way for kids your child's age to start preparing for their future: being aware of opportunities like youth apprenticeships. Different from internships, these paid programs help students set professional goals while providing:

 on-the-job training, experience, and credentials  mentoring opportunities
 a foundation for jump-starting a career

Flip the page for tips on how to have an age-appropriate discussion with your child about the future, and discover apprenticeship opportunities together. ➡

WHAT EXACTLY IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Some people are surprised to learn that apprenticeships are available for occupations in almost every field and that youth apprenticeships, in particular, can give teens an early start on a career with an industry-recognized credential they can take anywhere as proof of their proficiency. Since the legal age to begin work is 16 in most states, youth apprenticeships are typically designed for high school juniors and seniors.

In-demand industries that offer youth apprenticeships: advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity, information technology, engineering, and marketing—to name just a few!

START THE CAREER PLANNING CONVERSATION!



CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR STUDENTS TO FAMILY MEMBERS

- What are some of the most important skills you learned on the job?
- Is there any career-related info you wish you had known when you were a student?
- Would you change anything about the position/industry you work in? Why or why not?

CONVERSATION STARTERS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS TO STUDENTS

- How could learning about various types of jobs at an early age benefit you?
- What career paths do you find most interesting?
- How can learning about youth apprenticeships give you a clearer idea of what your next steps should/could be?

+ BONUS

- Reflect on what you've learned together! What insights have you gained?

EXPLORE THESE ONLINE RESOURCES AS A FAMILY

Begin here, and check with your child's school to see if they recommend any other career exploration resources!

- Learn more about apprenticeship and find real job listings of apprenticeships across the country: [apprenticeship.gov](https://www.apprenticeship.gov)
- Find out more about apprenticeships for high school students: [apprenticeship.gov/educators/high-school](https://www.apprenticeship.gov/educators/high-school)
- Get information about industries that have the most new jobs: [bls.gov/ooh/](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/)
- Answer questions about yourself to unlock ideas for careers and apprenticeships, or browse hundreds of careers by industry: [mynextmove.org](https://www.mynextmove.org)