

CAREER PATHS

A cartoon scientist with blonde hair, wearing a white lab coat and a pink necklace, is holding two test tubes and looking at a beaker of pink liquid on a stand. The background is a grid pattern.

As you go through school and experience life, one of your goals is to become employable. **EMPLOYABILITY** means to be well prepared to obtain and keep employment (a job). What is more important, you want to be prepared for a career in the field, or fields, of your interest.

As an adult, you will be at work more than 2,000 hours every year! That's a lot of hours. You want to enjoy your time spent on the job.



A **JOB** is work people do for pay. A **CAREER** is the work an individual does throughout his/her lifetime. A **CAREER PATH** is one or more jobs in the same area of interest. **Working in different jobs of a specific career path can:**

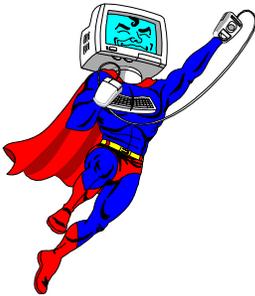
- ✓ stimulate your interest
- ✓ increase your knowledge
- ✓ provide valuable training
- ✓ give you a variety of experience
- ✓ motivate positive attitudes for additional training or education, if needed
- ✓ contribute to the quality of your work life



Planning for a career requires action by the individual, meaning YOU! It's never too early to identify your interests. What should you do to prepare for a career? Often times your interests will change as you get older. That's okay. As your life and school experiences grow and broaden, your likes and dislikes will begin to show a pattern and indicate career path preferences.

Planning for a career:

- ✓ identify interests, abilities, and character qualities
- ✓ become aware of the various career paths
- ✓ learn the general expectations of each career path
- ✓ match your personality and learning style to a career path
- ✓ identify skills and education required
- ✓ develop positive attitudes and human relations skills
- ✓ identify life goals and make a plan
- ✓ focus on career goal



Today we live in a world of computers and technology. **TECHNOLOGY is using equipment and tools to get things done.** Computers and technology are always being improved and changed. An expensive computer purchased just last year may already be considered a dinosaur!

The JOB MARKET also is constantly changing. **JOB MARKET is the type of jobs created and available for workers and the need for people who have the skills, training, education and desire to fill these jobs.** *The Job Market is the world of work. The Job Market is the workplace. The terms Job Market, World of Work, Workplace mean the same thing.*

Some traditional jobs may disappear while other jobs are created as our world changes. Let's look at an example of the changing Job Market: Do the lunchroom workers at school actually cook your lunch anymore? A few years back, many lunchroom workers lost their job. School meals are now cooked somewhere else and trucked into each school. It's called "Cook and Chill."



Another example is the Railroad Industry. Military and industrial equipment, consumer goods and materials all used to be hauled primarily by rail. Then 18-wheeler trucks began to transport goods. Products today are also transported by air. The rest is history as the railroad lost business to trucking and air. Of course, the railroad still transports some goods but only a fraction of what they used to.

People used to travel on passenger trains and busses. In fact, Ogden was an extremely important city in the Railroad Industry. Ogden was the railroad "hub" (center) of the west. Thousands of people passed through Ogden and thousands of people held railroad jobs. Today there are very, very few railroad jobs. Those jobs were replaced by computerized equipment and technology. Many passenger train jobs were also lost when people began to travel by air. The Airline industry using improved technology was able to reduce the cost of air fares and, consequently,

passengers were able to reach their destinations in a matter of hours while the bus and rail travel took days. How do most people travel today?

Can you think of other jobs lost or changed by technology? Talk to your parents and grandparents. Can they think of other jobs that no longer exist or that have dramatically changed? Chances are your grandparents will be able to name several. When grandpa says “the world just isn’t the same” he’s right!

Because the job market is always changing, it’s extremely important YOU understand the importance of continuous education and training. The need for additional training and education is required as technology changes. Today, more than ever, workers must be flexible and willing to learn and change as technology impacts the world of work. That means you will most likely participate in many courses during your career life. New training and education may take place at the job, a training center, and/or at the local university.



As a teenager and young adult, you may decide to take on a part-time job. **PART-TIME JOBS** generally pay minimum wages and are entry-level jobs with few skills or education/training requirements. A part-time job is a good way to learn about the world of work. You will see job skills in action! Some necessary job skills are: positive attitude, positive human relations skills, team work, responsibility, and personal integrity. (We’ll discuss these skills when we explore [Human Resources](#).)



PART-TIME JOBS generally require 30 or less work hours each week. A part-time job is a good way to gain experience, meet new people, and practice teamwork.

Now is the time for you to begin career exploration by developing positive attitudes and enthusiasm for the wide variety of career options. School and life experiences impacting you now will become the stepping stones to your career and life path.

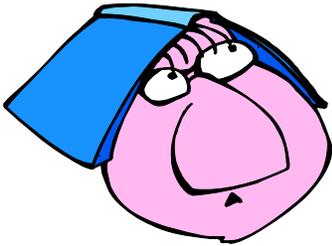


Let’s start off on the right foot!

What do you want to be when you grow up? This question has been asked of you many times. When you were three, you definitely knew what you wanted to be. Perhaps, you wanted to be a fireman, or police officer, or

cowboy. You're older now and may not be as certain. Don't be concerned if you don't have an answer at this point in your life. You do though need to begin identifying your areas of interest and become aware of five career paths and general characteristics of each. As an adult, **you will spend more time on the job than any other activity.** You want to enjoy your career and receive pleasure from it for a satisfying and fulfilling life.

Girls, it is equally important for you to honestly focus attention on exploring careers as it is the boys. Some girls plan to marry early, have children, and become full-time mommies. The reality of our complex world is that a majority of girls whether they wish to or not must work outside the home. You will receive far more satisfaction and financial benefit if you are prepared for the job market.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT!!!

In the year 2000:

- There were 10 million more women in the U.S. than men.
- 61% of all females were in the work force full-time.
- 74% of males were in the work force.
(Remember: some females/males are children and the elderly.)
- Of females in the workforce, 59% had a child under 1 year old!

Those numbers are **NOT GOOD NEWS** for girls planning to be full-time mommies. Life is unpredictable. Be prepared to face the future whatever it may bring you. Very few women are able to remain at home as full-time mommies for many reasons. Historically, females also earn less money than males. A major reason for this is many girls have not prepared themselves for a career! Some girls simply do not have high-level job skills.

**IT IS IN EVERYONE'S BEST INTEREST TO PLAN,
PREPARE, AND FOCUS ON A CAREER GOAL!**

It is not unusual for some people to explore many, many jobs before they are able to identify their ultimate career field. Others have very strong interest levels and

seem to focus on a specific career early in life. Most of us fall somewhere in between the two extremes.



There is nothing wrong with questioning what your career path will be at this time or for a few more years yet. Your experiences in TLC may not pinpoint a career path or specific career. But, the activities you complete should help you eliminate areas that simply don't match your likes. When you eliminate even one career path, you've narrowed your search. And, YOU are making progress.

There are five broad career areas called CAREER FIELDS or CAREER PATHS with each Career Field represented by a logo (design). These **CAREER FIELDS OR CAREER PATHS** are used to help **organize occupations (jobs) into groups that have some similar characteristics**. Some careers within a career path appear to be quite different from each other. But **each Career Path has general characteristics in common**. The five CAREER FIELDS are Business, Social Humanitarian, Scientific, Artistic and Technical. Each Career Field has many occupations within it.

Let's look at each career path individually and while we're at it we'll identify some specific occupations and common characteristics.



Let's explore the five Career Fields and some general characteristics of each. Read about each of the career fields and then complete Career Paths—World of Work Activity 1 and Activity 2 that follow.



Types of Careers in the **Business Pathway**:

Accountant, Office Manager, Business Owner, Retailer, Hotel and Restaurant Manager, Advertising Executive, Sales Representative, Banker, Computer Programmer, Word Processor, Insurance Agent, Investment Counselor

Office Technologies
Business Administration
Accounting & Finance
Marketing & Sales
Distribution
Management

General expectations of people who are interested in **Business Careers** include:

Enjoy working with people
Persuasive and persistent
Good communication skills—written and verbal
Ambitious, self-motivated, goal oriented
Honest, trustworthy
Positive attitude
Works with numbers

Activity: Can you think of two courses in Jr. High that would help you prepare for a business career? List the courses and explain how they would prepare you for a career in the business pathway.

- | <u>Course</u> | <u>How It Would Help Prepare You for a Business Career</u> |
|---------------|--|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |

Types of Careers in the **Social Humanitarian Pathway:**



Teacher, Social Worker, Lawyer, Police Officer, Politician, Counselor, Waitress, Waiter, Recreation Leader, Judge, Detective, Bus Driver, School Principal, Flight Attendant

Education
Government & Elected Officials
Legal Services
Social Services
Personal Services

General expectations of people who are interested in **Social Humanitarian Careers** include:

Willing to serve all types of people
Desire to serve society
Honest and trustworthy
General sense of what others are thinking and feeling
Tolerance for people who are different
Leadership skills
Positive attitude

Activity: All careers in the **Social Humanitarian Pathway** have **one thing in common**. What is it?

Types of Careers in the **Scientific Pathway**:



Engineer, Doctor, Dentist, Chemist, Therapist, Paramedic, Sports Trainer, Pharmacist, Forest Ranger, Wildlife Managers, Scuba Diver, Fish Farmer, Researcher, Radiologist, Nurse, Oceanographer, Biologist

Engineering
Sciences
Physical Sciences
Health Sciences
Life Science
Medical Research

General expectations of people interested in **Scientific Careers** include:

Enjoy physical and life sciences
Like adventure and new challenges
Enjoy mathematics-related problems
Possess good analytical skills
Concerned about mankind, environment and conservation
Enjoy rising early and working long hours

Activity: A Doctor and Paramedic are included in the Scientific Career Path. What **other Career Path** might a Doctor or Paramedic be associated with? Why?

Types of Careers in the **Artistic Pathway:**



Graphic Artist, Interior Designer, Architect, Photographer, Musician, Actor, Singer, Comic, Newspaper Reporter, Television Broadcaster, Interpreter, Public Relations Executive, Writer

Communications
Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Graphic Design

General expectations of people interested in **Artistic Careers** include:

- Communicates very well both verbally and written
- Commitment to developing a particular talent
- Takes pride in creating thing
- Vivid imagination
- Comfortable coping with changing conditions
- Creative problem solver
- Work in a fast-paced competitive environment

Activity: Identify one Artistic expectation that is important for each occupation below: (Refer to expectations listed above)

Interior Designer _____

Newspaper Reporter _____

Musician _____

Writer _____

Types of Careers in the **Technical Pathway:**



Automotive Technician, Welder, Network Systems Manager, Pilot, Construction Worker, Plumber, Drafter, Electrician, Computer Repair Technician, Chef, Web Page Designer

Construction & Maintenance
Equipment Operation & Repair
Information Technology
Personal & Specialty Services
Computer Networking

General expectations of people interested in **Technical Careers** include:

Interest in tools, machines, and computers
Curious about why and how things work
Enjoys mathematical puzzles
Likes to build or fix things
Good mechanical ability

Activity: Why are good math skills important with Technical Careers?

COMPLETE Act. 1, *Career Path World of Work Worksheet* and Act. 2, *Career Paths Word Search, Now.*

REMEMBER: The Quality Standard is 80% correct to pass these activities. Be sure **YOUR NAME** in on your paper!