

Get Started: Career Exploration

Middle School Grades (6-8)

My Future AZ: myfutureaz.pipelineaz.com

My Future AZ is the preferred platform for Education Career Action Plan (ECAP). This free career planning tool starts with a career interest survey which yields relevant industries that reflect student passions. This new tool is designed to transfer Arizona middle school student accounts into high school! My Future AZ provides visibility into local high school CTE course options so students can begin high school career preparation.

Apply for a school administrator account by sending an email to myfutureaz@azed.gov.

My Future AZ Get Started Guide



The Get Started Guide can be accessed by clicking on **Start here!** on the student dashboard. This resource provides an age-appropriate resource designed to expose middle school students to career literacy tools and vocabulary while preparing for high school. It is recommended to complete these lessons BEFORE taking the My Future AZ High School Career Interest Assessment.




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WHO AM I?

Students engage in self-reflection activities to create positive self-labels and identify individual skills, interests, and values.

Before we jump right into careers, take some time to understand your personality traits and skills. Finding your passion career starts with - WHAT DO **YOU** LIKE?! Take as many assessments as possible to truly understand personality tendencies. Be sure to answer each question honestly and reflect on your results; do you agree with the label?

<p>Stand-Alone Assessments (Student Resources)</p>	<p>Take these online Personality Tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Mechanisms: personalityacademy.com/quiz Provides students with essential vocabulary to help explain the way we see the world and how we interact with others • True Colors: my-personality-test.com/true-colours Fun and insightful personality-identification system that helps students develop positive self-labels and understand differences. • 16 Personalities: 16personalities.com/free-personality-test Learn how your personality type influences many areas of your life. • Create an “All About Me” collage in PowerPoint. Google search images that reflect your personality – including new self-labels as determined by the above assessments.
<p>Lesson Plans/Curriculum (Teacher Resources)</p>	<p>AZ Education Foundation - TeachSTEM Explorers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are my Career Options? (L5) Students explore their interests and learn about career clusters. <p>Junior Achievement Inspires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the Leader Students will think about how leadership manifests in different scenarios, and reflect on how they can use their leadership skills to serve others and their community. <p>Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum - Lenses on the Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self: The Me I Choose (L1) Students complete an “alpha biography” and identity wheel. • Self: My Strengths and Talents (L2) Students take a Meyers-Briggs 16 Personalities Assessment and reflect on the results.
<p>My Future AZ Student Tasks</p>  <p>My Future AZ ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Set up a profile on My Future AZ student and invite a parent/guardian. 2. Save any external assessment results to the My Future AZ profile using the “Document Library”. 3. Complete Student Profile—Add 5-6 personality traits, skills, and interests to the profile.


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WHERE AM I GOING?

Students set career goals that align with their skills, interests, and lifestyle preferences and identify associated education or training milestones.

We hope you learned some new, positive self-labels for yourself. We are all good at something! Next step activities will help you explore your personality traits as they translate to workplace needs. Do you stay calm in emergencies? You may be suited for careers in the health, education, and public safety fields.

<p>Stand Alone Assessments (Student Resources)</p>	<p>Take these Personality/Preferences tests to find matching to careers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Images Quiz: Photo Career Quiz Truity Engaging pictures of people in career fields to help the student select what they like or are interested in exploring. • RIASEC Assessment: Onlinepersonalitytests.org/riasec/ Students select statements that reflect what they like to do with an output that is matched to careers based on personality type. • Create a “My Future Career” collage in PowerPoint. Google search images that reflect your top career selection as determined by the above assessments. Consider, “did you select a STEM-related career”?
<p>Lesson Plans/Curriculum (Teacher Resources)</p>	<p>AZ Education Foundation - Teach STEM Explorers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to STEM (L1): Pre-survey to set a baseline of student understanding of STEM/STEAM. <p>Junior Achievement Inspire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Growth Careers Students will define and explore high-growth, high-demand jobs that require the use of technology. Click here to request a JA Inspires login. <p>Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum - Lenses on The Future Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security: Holland Codes (L8) Students reflect on results from results. • Self: Connecting Careers (L3) Students complete a “Career Cluster Brainstorming” activity and journal reflection. • Self: Six-Word Statements (L4) Students write six-word objective statements and complete a journal reflection. • Security: Future Ready Pathways (L5) Students take the My Future AZ Interest Assessment and respond to reflection questions.
<p>My Future AZ (Student Tasks)</p>  <p>My Future AZ ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Save any external assessment results to the My Future AZ profile using the “Document Library”. 2. Explore and save industries and careers of interest. 3. TAKE the My Future AZ Career Interest Assessment! 4. Favorite and explore career results


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HOW DO I GET THERE?

Students explore High School CTE (or dual enrollment) classes and post-secondary options to develop a Career Pathway Plan for high school and beyond.

Now that you are thinking about your future career, identify the resources and tools to help you get there. Explore the high schools you are considering attending—What types of CTE or Early College opportunities are there? Consider applying for an internship or volunteer work.

<p>Lesson Plans/Curriculum (Teacher Resources)</p>	<p>AZ Education Foundation - TeachSTEM Explorers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of Education and income (L4) Students make a connection between education and income. • What is a Career? (L6) Students are exposed to industry-specific terminology and learn how to access salary and outlook. • The Cost of Living – AZ Style! (L7) This lesson is designed to help students understand the purpose of income and how it is spent. <p>Junior Achievement Inspire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you know? Students make a connection between education & income. • Business Etiquette Students will learn about the importance of business etiquette and the impact on positive customer and employee relations. • Board Game and Grid Builder Fun dream job activities. • Heads Up Students craft questions to ask while on the JA Inspire Virtual Career Platform about a career or company that interests them. • Peripheral Vision Students use imagery and visualization to construct a narrative about a job they might have one day. • Goals Students will learn about the importance of goal setting and how it pertains to the selection of a career pathway <p>Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum - Lenses on the Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security: Job, Job, Career (L6): Students evaluate the difference between a job and a career and reflect on what it means in their lives. • Security: Keeping It Real (L7): Students complete a simulation in which they evaluate the education and lifestyle costs of a specific career of interest. • Security: My Personal Brand (L9): Students develop a personal brand and story. • Society: Values Hold 'Em (L10): Students complete an exercise to identify their values. • Society: Finding Contribution (L11) Students complete a Road Trip Nation Career Gallery Walk and complete a journal reflection. <p>Be sure to write down the career names, income, and job outlook from the above lessons.</p>
<p>My Future AZ Student Tasks</p>  <p>My Future AZ ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record education and career goals in your My Future AZ student profile. 2. Explore high schools and locate CTE programs. 3. Create a Draft High School Course Plan. 4. Update the Student Profile information.

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Teachers, looking for more curricular resources?

Professional Skills & Industry-Specific Career Exploration Curriculum	
	<p>The <i>Possible Futures Career Exploration Curriculum</i> FREE Career Exploration Curriculum is designed to be facilitated by an educator. There are six units: explore STEM occupations (in Healthcare, Information Technology, Engineering & Design, and Cybersecurity), develop essential employability skills, and better understand self and the world of work. Each unit includes 12 lessons, each providing 45 minutes of learning time. For the complete lesson plans and free training opportunities. Connect with us: arizonafuture.org/programs/workforce-programs/possible-futures-career-exploration-curriculum/</p>
	<p>ABEC Industry Curriculum</p> <p>The Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC) is <i>the coalition</i> of Arizona business and education leaders committed to helping create public education policy essential to a vibrant, growing Arizona economy. ABEC's Middle School Career Exploration Project has developed an engaging and hands-on curriculum in the Automotive, Construction, and Culinary Arts/Hospitality industries. Connect with us: azbec.org/</p>
	<p>JA Inspire Middle School Career Exploration Fair</p> <p>This dynamic career development experience gives middle and high school students access to local employers, post-secondary education opportunities, and interactive career activities. Learn more: aaz.org/ja-inspire-portal/JA-inspire-middle-school-portal/</p>
	<p>Arizona Department of Education (ADE) K-8 Career Literacy: azed.gov/cte/k-8-career-literacy</p> <p>ADE School Counseling Curricular Resources padlet.com/adeschoolcounseling</p>