



K-5 Career Awareness Activities

Created by Arizona Librarians

The following are shared activities are tied to the K-8 Career Awareness standards. The following activities includes title, grade, description, aligned standards, resources, outcomes, and author information.



**The Library is the
Best Place for Kids!**

Kinsey Elementary School - Career
Visit to Flagstaff High School-Culinary Class
February 23, 2024



Library Career Discovery Corner

Grades 4-5

Activity Description

Students visit this section of the library weekly. It contains age-appropriate career resources, preparation for field trips to local high school CTE programs, and guest speakers who explain their career journey and daily job responsibilities.

Career Literacy Standards

5.0 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK AND DISCOVER NEW CAREERS

5.1 Investigate the world of work and why people work (i.e., workforce composition, employee skills related to career requirements, community connections, economic value, etc.)

5.5 Connect personal interests, strengths, hobbies, and values that can match jobs or careers

5.6 Explore jobs, occupations, and careers to understand the value of all careers to society

7.0 ESTABLISH A FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING OF MONEY

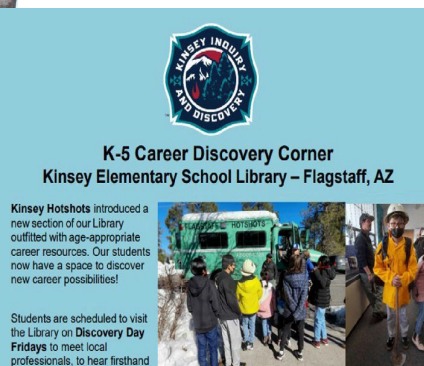
7.5 Explore how people can enhance their income potential by gaining new knowledge, skills, and experience

Resources

Media and books that cover, the [career clusters](#), career related costumes, guest speakers with tools from the trade.

Desired Outcome

A friendly and resourceful space for students to discover new career possibilities.



Public Library Field Trip

Grades K-5

Activity Description

Take students to the local library or visit online.
Locate resources in local, regional, and national libraries.



Career Literacy Standards

2.0 DEVELOP PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

2.4 Identify resources, including trusted experts and reliable tools, to support informed decisions to solve problems

4.0 INVESTIGATE TECHNOLOGY USAGE IN THE WORKPLACE

4.6 Demonstrate grade-level technological literacy, media literacy, and digital citizenship to build transferable skills that adapt to changing technology (i.e., AZ EdTech and ISTE standards)

5.0 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK AND DISCOVER NEW CAREERS

5.5 Connect personal interests, strengths, hobbies, and values that can match jobs or careers

5.6 Explore jobs, occupations, and careers to understand the value of all careers to society

Resources Internet, field trip planning, and parent involvement.

Desired Outcome

- Students discover where their local libraries are and get a library card
- Student are exposed to local free resources from their libraries (i.e., check out books, movies and music, gardening resources, museum tickets, etc.)
- Enhanced reading skills, social skills, and literacy development

Library Career Awareness

Grades 2-4

Title of Activity

What's Next?

Activity Description

Students work together in teams of 4 to create art without an expected outcome. The activity starts with each student drawing something on paper. Each author explains their work and others contribute a second, third, etc. drawing until the artwork is complete.



Career Literacy Standards

1.0 DEVELOP COMMUNICATION SKILLS

1.4 Practice sharing ideas through verbal, visual, and written communication (i.e., organizing thoughts, speaking slowly and clearly, etc.)

2.0 DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

2.3 Demonstrate brainstorming techniques individually and in groups to generate creative solutions for assigned tasks

3.0 PRACTICE TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

3.4 Practice roles and behaviors that facilitate teamwork with peers (i.e., active listening, empathy, respecting opinions, expressing opinions, etc.)

Resources

Poster paper, markers, crayons, and colored pencils.

Desired Outcomes

- Students collaborate, problem solve, create, and respect each others' contributions to create collaborative artwork.

Library Career Awareness

Grades K-5

Title of Activity

Slime Time!

Activity Description

Students work together to create slime.

Career Literacy Standards

3.0 PRACTICE TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

3.4 Practice roles and behaviors that facilitate teamwork with peers (i.e., active listening, empathy, respecting opinions, expressing opinions, etc.)

6.0 EXPLORE ACCOUNTABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY SKILLS RELATED TO THE WORLD OF WORK

6.1 Identify examples of personal responsibility at school and in the community (i.e., listen and follow directions, meet expected standards, make educated choices, ask for help when needed, etc.)

Resources

Glue, baking soda/borax, shaving cream, coloring eye contact solution, [online recipe](#)

Desired Outcome

Students follow directions, practice teamwork, reading and math skills to create slime from a recipe.



Library Career Awareness

Grades K-5

Title of Activity

Capturing Kid's Heart (CKH)



Activity Description

Students study the word of the month, create images to depict the word and share their work with the group.

Career Literacy Standards

1.0 DEVELOP COMMUNICATION SKILLS

1.4 Practice sharing ideas through verbal, visual, and written communication (i.e., organizing thoughts, speaking slowly and clearly, etc.)

1.5 Demonstrate active listening skills by asking thoughtful and relevant questions, paraphrasing messages, respectfully engaging with others' ideas, and using appropriate eye contact, body language, and attention

2.0 PRACTICE TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP

2.3 Practice roles and behaviors that facilitate teamwork with peers (i.e., active listening, empathy, respecting opinions, expressing opinions, etc.)

Resources

Paper, crayons, Internet, videos, books, [Capturing Kids Hearts](https://www.capturingkidshearts.com/) website

Desired Outcome

Students use creative ways to communicate vocabulary words and help other students understand.

Library Career Awareness

Grades K-5

Title of Activity

Career Interaction Centers

Activity Description

A space in the library for students to explore careers with differentiated career-related activities.

Career Literacy Standards

STANDARD 5.0 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK AND DISCOVER NEW CAREERS

5.5 Connect personal interests, strengths, hobbies, and values that can match jobs or careers

5.6 Explore jobs, occupations, and careers to understand the value of all careers to society

Resources

Coloring pages, art supplies, career media,
industry professional visitors,

[Educator Pro Connect](#)

Desired Outcomes

Students are exposed to a variety of careers.

Dental Assistant



Library Career Awareness

Grades 4-5

Title of Activity

Strange Structures

Activity Description

Students collaborate on a challenge to build a structure that will hold a book for the longest time. The structure must be 6" above the table and hold for at least 10 seconds.



Career Literacy Standards

2.0 DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

2.3 Demonstrate brainstorming techniques individually and in groups to generate creative solutions for assigned tasks

2.4 Identify resources, including trusted experts and reliable tools, to support informed decisions to solve problems

2.5 Evaluate the outcomes of decisions and determine their appropriateness

Resources

Paper, tape, rulers, scissors, heavy books, website:

<https://teachbesideme.com/make-paper-hold-up-books/>

Desired Outcomes

Students collaborate, question and execute to create a successful structure.

Library Career Awareness

Grades 5-6



Title of Activity

Career Shadow Box

Activity Description

Students explore careers and design a shadow box for a desired career.

Completed shadow boxes are displayed in the library for students and parents.

Career Literacy Standards

1.0 INVESTIGATE CAREERS AND CAREER PATHWAYS

1.5 Identify 2-3 career areas of interest using a career assessment platform

3.0 CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

3.3 Investigate problem-solving and critical thinking processes and techniques to meet real-world challenges and personal decisions

7.0 ACCOUNTABILITY AND ETHICAL BEHAVIORS

7.4 Demonstrate appropriate work habits (i.e., time management)

Resources

Shoe boxes, books, computers, arts and crafts materials

Desired Outcome

Plant career seeds to dream and expand student career knowledge.

Library Career Awareness

Grades 2-4



Title of Activity

Future Possibilities

Activity Description

Students are introduced to day-in-the life career videos. Career- related activities are completed by students once a week.

Display Examples:

Farming – hands-on projects, books, videos, coloring sheets.

Education – educator acts out a “day-in-the-life” scenario for students to role- play.

Career Literacy Standards

2.0 DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

2.4 Identify resources, including trusted experts and reliable tools, to support informed decisions to solve problems

5.0 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK AND DISCOVER NEW CAREERS

5.6 Explore jobs, occupations, and careers to understand the value of all careers to society

5.7 Characterize the knowledge and skills required for a variety of career fields

Resources

Teacher-created displays, books, YouTube career videos, coloring sheets, online career resources.

Desired Outcomes

- Career discovery.
- Students develop career choices and accept that the choices they make today may change as they grow.



Library Career Awareness

Grades 2-4

NO BAKE Kids' Recipes

Title of Activity

Chefs and Cooks

Activity Description

Students learn about healthy ingredients, how to make a balanced meal, how to read recipes, and figure out the cost of a meal.



Career Literacy Standards

3.0 PRACTICE TEAMWORK AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

3.5 Work in teams to accomplish a common goal

6.0 EXPLORE ACCOUNTABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY SKILLS

6.4 Identify strategies to ensure that tasks are completed on time (i.e., prioritizing, time management, planning, etc.)

7.0 ESTABLISH A FUNDAMENTAL UNDERSTANDING OF MONEY

7.7 Demonstrate grade-level math skills and explain how these skills are used in careers

Resources

Recipes and associated cooking supplies.

Desired Outcomes

Students enjoy healthy cooking and may want to pursue this career pathway.



Library Career Awareness

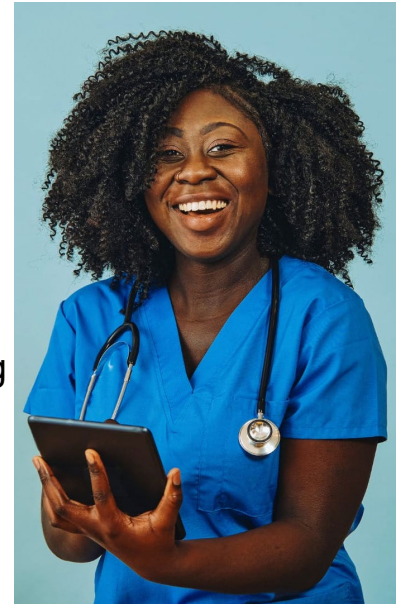
Grades K-3

Title of Activity

My Possible Future

Activity Description

Each week, the librarian will dress up and role play. Starting with health careers, students will learn how to care for a scrape/scratch, imaginary or real. A real nurse will visit the classroom to explain their daily duties and bring medical equipment.



Career Literacy Standards

5.0 EXPLORE THE WORLD OF WORK AND DISCOVER NEW CAREERS

- 5.1 Investigate the world of work and why people work
- 5.6 Explore jobs, occupations, and careers to understand the value of all careers to society
- 5.7 Characterize the knowledge and skills required for a variety of career fields

Resources

Bandages, antiseptic, guest speaker

Desired Outcomes

Spark student interest in possible careers.

Library Career Awareness

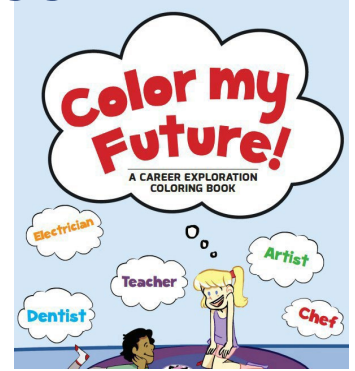
Grades 2-4

Title of Activity

Color My Future

Activity Description

Students select and [color career pages](#). Based on the student selections, local professionals will be invited to share their journey, daily job duties, and tools of their trade.



Career Literacy Standards

1.0 DEVELOP COMMUNICATION SKILLS

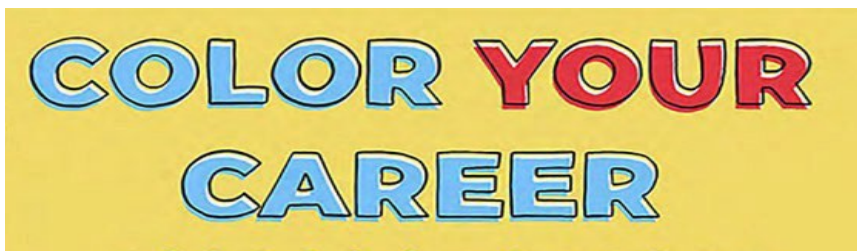
1.3 Identify personal wants, needs, and feelings, and demonstrate how to communicate them appropriately

Resources

Printed pages, crayons, and [Educator Pro Connect](#)

Desired Outcome

Students are encouraged to dream about future career opportunities.



Library Career Awareness

Grades K-3

Title of Activity

Career Exposures

Activity Description

Students experience career exposure in the library on a bi-weekly basis. This includes short videos and fun worksheets.



Career Literacy Standards

1.0 DEVELOP COMMUNICATION SKILLS

1.3 Identify personal wants, needs, and feelings, and demonstrate how to communicate them appropriately

1.5 Demonstrate active listening skills by asking thoughtful and relevant questions, paraphrasing messages, respectfully engaging with others' ideas, and using appropriate eye contact, body language, and attention

Resources

[Discovery Education](#), YouTube, and Edge Factor

Desired Outcomes

Develop an interest in 4-5 careers.

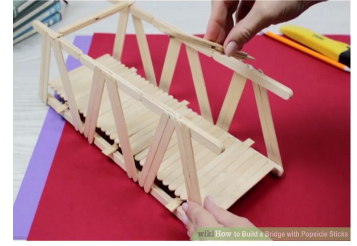


Library Career Awareness

Grades 2-4

Activity Title

Build a Bridge Project



Activity Description

The librarian reviews how problem-solving skills, creativity, collaboration, and communication are important to teamwork. In teams, students will construct a bridge made from popsicle sticks and record the angles and dimensions of the structure. Students will display their bridges at Open house.

Career Literacy Standards

2.0 DEVELOP PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

2.1 Discuss the benefits of problem-solving (i.e., better decisions, cost saving, conflict resolution, etc.)

2.2 Summarize steps of the decision-making process (e.g., define the problem; determine the cause of the problem; identify, prioritize, and select alternative solutions; and implement a solution)

6.0 EXPLORE ACCOUNTABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY SKILLS RELATED TO THE WORLD OF WORK

6.4 Identify strategies to ensure that tasks are completed on time (i.e., prioritizing, time management, planning, etc.)

Resources

[Popsicle sticks, glue, and online instructions.](#)

A mechanical engineer to speak to the class.

Desired Outcomes

Students practice collaboration, problem-solving, creativity, and courteous communication skills. Students will decide on the kind of bridge they will make (suspension bridge, draw bridge, or truss bridge) Students will build a structure within 2-3 class periods. Students will measure angles and dimensions to create a schematic of their bridge.