

Participating in Work Experiences Activity Plan

Learning Target: At the end of this activity, students will understand how participating in volunteering, service-learning projects, paid jobs, or apprenticeships can give them valuable work experience to add to their resume.

Pre-ETS Connection: Work-Based Learning Experiences

Time Recommended: 60 minutes

TransitionTN Additional Resources for Instructors

- [Career Fairs Quick Activity](#)
- [Developing Volunteer Experiences](#)
- [Pre-ETS Sequencing Guide](#)
- [Service-Learning Projects](#)
- [Types of Employment Quick Activity](#)
- [Work-Based Learning Provider Course](#)

Other Resources for Instructors

- [American Job Centers](#)
- [ApprenticeshipTN](#)
- [Tennessee Work-Based Learning Implementation Guide](#)

Materials and Preparation

- Computers or tablets if completing activities with technology
- Printed resources as needed (fact sheet, activity sheet, recording form, etc.)

Providing Accommodations

- Arrange accommodations for students who have fine motor skill needs such as using a computer mouse.
 - For example, instead of operating a computer mouse, have students point to the screen while someone else clicks the options for them

- Use a peer to help guide students through the activities
- Read the content out loud to students
- Allow students to use audio recordings
- Provide a scribe or someone to type in the answers for the student as they verbally answer the questions
- Download and print the form for students who do not have access to a computer
- If applicable, meet with the teacher to ensure any new vocabulary is entered into the students' Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices
- In the school-based activity, students can complete one, multiple, or all examples. Tailor the activity to best fit your student's needs.

Vocabulary Review

- Review the suggested vocabulary using the online vocabulary review or print out [vocabulary flashcards](#).

Think About

- What is the benefit of participating in different work experiences?
- How can participating in different work experiences help you prepare for your career?
- Do you have any work experience?
- What type of experience was it?
- To add work experience to your resume, do you have to be paid for it?

Play the Game

- Instruct students to play the game found on the Get Involved page
- Students can play the game independently, work in small groups, or play as a class

School-Based Activity

Discuss: Instruct students to read through the fact sheet independently, with a partner, or as a group. After reviewing the fact sheet, use the Think About questions to prompt discussion about how attending experiences can help students explore new interests, learn new skills, prepare for their careers, and have fun.

Explain: Emphasize that volunteering, service-learning projects, paid jobs, and apprenticeships offer opportunities to learn new skills and gain work experience to add to resumes. These experiences can help students explore career interests, learn new skills, or discover a new career of interest. Students can decide which experiences they would like to participate in.

In this activity, students will:

- Download or print the [A Guide to Selecting Work Experiences](#) form
- Review the examples of work experiences listed
- List options available in their community
- Complete the chart to determine which experience they are interested in trying

Community-Based Extension

After students have completed the school-based activity, they can continue exploring the work experiences. Students can explore these options by reaching out to someone who can share their own work experience. Students could talk with a Career Counselor, a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Teacher, a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, or a friend or family member. Students will need to download the [Work Experiences Interview Activity](#) for this activity. Students will identify a person who can answer questions about work experiences. Students will reach out to the person and ask them questions to learn more about work experiences. After they complete the form, the student will answer the reflection questions at the end of the document.