



Explore Uni Career Conversations Year 7

Looking forward to seeing you and your Year 7 students at our Explore Uni day. In preparation, we've created career conversations that we recommend for students in Year 7 who are attending an Explore Uni day.

A career conversation can be 15-30 minutes (e.g. on the bus en route to your Explore Uni day), or, you can do a full lesson (approx 50 minutes) to explore the topic in more depth.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Explore Uni days focus on demystifying tertiary study. Your Year 7 students will focus on the connection between jobs, learning and their own goals. Through interactions with tertiary students, presentations and immersion in the campus environment, your students will develop:

- a good understanding of the connections between different types of qualifications and jobs
- a better understanding of the connection between their current choices and their future options
- a positive attitude towards themselves as learners and towards the accessibility of tertiary study
- a better idea of where to get information and resources to develop their post-school goals and career plans

LEARNING OBJECTIVES – THE WORLD OF WORK

- Why do people work?
- The tangible and intangible values of work
- Identifying valuable characteristics of different types of work
- Utilising work to meet personal goals
- Understanding a wide range of fields of study and related careers
- Becoming aware of personal skills and interests
- Developing basic skills in finding and using career-related information
- Making connections between current attitudes to learning at school and future options, and between personal traits and career choices

PRE-VISIT

Career Conversation (15-30 minutes)

The benefits people get from work are strongly linked to their values. When people understand what their values are regarding work, they can:

- work out what they hope to achieve through working – i.e. overall ambitions
- set meaningful goals
- choose jobs that satisfy beyond the 'hip pocket'
- understand feelings of dissatisfaction with work that doesn't align with their values

Ask students to consider why they might work?

- What is most important to them in a job?
- What does job satisfaction mean to them?

People get job satisfaction when they work. Here are some reasons e.g. provides financial security; provides for material needs (e.g. food and shelter) and wants (e.g. a new car, designer clothes, holidays); a social life; a sense of personal achievement; community service; fame or acknowledgement.

- Ask students if they can rank those things which may give them the greatest job satisfaction? Ask them to list their top 5 needs in terms of job satisfaction.
- What are some of the ways they might reach these goals?

Lesson Plan - The world of work (50 minutes)

Why do people work?

Ask students to write down why they think people work. And get them to write down a list of everything they can think of.

- Put the list in order of importance – the most important at the top and the least important at the bottom.
- Start a group discuss about what students think are the top 5 or 10 reasons that people work.

The benefits and job satisfaction people get from work are strongly linked to values and goals. Ask students to consider which of the reasons for working they wrote down are values or goals.

Values include things like:

- balancing family and social life with work
- helping others
- learning new things
- developing ideas, programs and products
- working independently
- working in a team to achieve outcomes

A goal includes things like:

- financial security
- necessities of life e.g. food and shelter
- material desires e.g. a new car, designer clothes, holidays
- a sense of personal achievement
- community service
- fame or acknowledgement

Knowing your the values and goals you want from work can assist you to:

- develop overall ambitions
- set meaningful goals
- choose satisfying jobs

Ask students if they can rank those things that would give them most job satisfaction. What are some of the ways you can reach your goals?

Career Conversation (15-30 minutes)

Today's Explore Uni experience was a chance for students to explore why people go to uni. Several Student Ambassadors talked about their journey to university. Ask the class:

- what did your students learn from these Ambassadors?
- what goals are the Ambassadors trying to achieve through university?
- what career ambitions they have?

In the Explore Uni notepad students were asked about their 'dream job'. Questions included:

- If I could do anything what would it be?
- My top three life goals?
- How can I achieve these goals?
- Who do I already know who could help me make a plan?
- What questions would I like answered about uni and how to get there?

Class discussion. Ask students:

- What skills would you need to be able to achieve these goals?
- What personal characteristics would you need to meet your goals?
- What qualifications will you need to meet your goals?
- Do you think you can achieve your goals by going to university or other educational institution?

HOMEWORK ACTIVITY

Ask students to do some research (either online or via library resources) to find out more about their dream job. Ask the students to complete the following questions:

- What is your dream job?
- What interests and qualities are needed in this job?
- What education pathways or qualifications are required?
- Are there any current positions available in this job?

Lesson Plan - The world of work (50 minutes)

During the Explore Uni visit the class heard from Student Ambassadors who talked about what they were studying and what career or job they hope to end up with.

Students also participated in hands on activities which highlighted a particular area of study that leads on to particular jobs or career areas. These included building and planning; business; creative design and performance; education; engineering; health and community; information technology; law and justice; and science and maths.

Students may also have been asked to write down their 'dream job' (pg. 17 - Explore Uni notepad). Ask the class to discuss what they learned at the Explore Uni day.

- What were some of the jobs or careers they heard about?
- What areas of study did they explore in hands-on activities?
- What jobs or careers were Ambassadors pursuing?
- Why are they undertaking study?
- What is their ultimate goal?
- What 'dream job' did students write down and why?
- What subjects would you need to study at school?
- What skills or training might you need for your dream job?
- How would you find out more about this activity?

Using the information students gleaned from the Explore Uni day or class-based research (using library or online resources ask students to do a presentation on their 'dream job' answering the following questions:

- What is your dream job?
- What interests and qualities are needed in this job?
- What specific qualifications are required to do it?
- What opportunities are available in this job?
- What are the key values of this job?
- What goals will this job help to achieve?

Resources

- MyFuture <https://myfuture.edu.au/career-insight/details?id=myths-and-tips-for-young-workers#/>



QUESTIONS?

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