

CAREER CLUSTER ideas

Activities for the 16 career clusters

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources

- Set up a Veterinarian office
- Dog Groomer
- Plant flowers
- Inspect plants, fruits, & vegetables
- Compare soil types
- Pick up litter or landscape school grounds
- Measure plant growth and changes
- Visit a farm, park, or pond
- Visit an animal shelter

Architecture and Construction

- Build with blocks
- Build with mini marshmallows and toothpicks (Grades 3-5)
- Draw a map of school, room, neighborhood, house
- Use pretend tools
- Show real tools
- Visit a home store

Arts, A/V Technology & Communications

- Create photo art
- Create a sculpture out of clay
- Create a class news show
- Create a class newspaper
- Visit a newspaper publishing office
- Paint a picture
- Make a book

Business, Management & Administration

- Practice Keyboarding
- Interview others about careers
- Have a business dress up day
- Have students use graphs to plot money and orders collected for lunch, ice cream, etc.
- File and classify items such as paperclips, marbles, pencils, crayons, papers, cards, etc.

Education & Training

- Students teach a lesson as a team
- Students create lesson plans
- Students grade each other's papers
- Interview a teacher
- Students teach a special skill to class
- Pair older students with younger students as tutors or reading buddies
- Visit a college campus

Finance

- Take turns counting money for ice cream/ lunch each day
- Create pretend check books
- Set up a pretend bank for rewards for good behavior, grades, etc.

- Set up a budget

Government & Public Administration

- Create a pretend post office
- Create a proposed school addition plan for fun such as a "water park", theme park, carnival area, sports center, etc.
- Run a mock campaign for different types of ice cream choices, pencils to sell in the bookstore, etc.

Health Science

- Learn about the body
- Discuss physician specialists
- Have students measure each other's height, weight, shoe size, record eye color, hair color, etc.
- Teach students basic first aid
- Set up a microscope to view skin cells, hair, fibers, etc.
- Invite an ambulance to visit

- Discuss germs, hand washing, and basic personal hygiene

Hospitality & Tourism

- Look at brochures from a travel agency
- Have students plan a pretend trip
- Set up student exercise and fitness classes

- Discuss different travel destinations.
- Create a pretend restaurant

Human Services

- Make cards for a nursing home
- Involve children in activities to promote self esteem, study skills, time management, and organization.
- Discuss bullying and conflict resolution skills.

Information Technology

- Use VA View's website
- Have students share their favorite video games
- Take apart an old computer
- Create a class pod cast or website

Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security

- Learn about local fish and game laws
- Play detectives to solve pretend mysteries with real evidence like shoe prints, finger prints, etc.
- Have a community helper dress up day

- Visit local public admin. Centers (fire department, police department)

Manufacturing

- Investigate the way common items are made such as crayons, paper, chalk, pencils (videos are usually available at public libraries)
- Talk about packaging
- Discuss different materials that make up items such as plastic, steel, gold, etc.

- Teach students how to sew with sewing cards, or for older students a needle and thread.

- Take apart old watches, locks, radios, clocks, etc.

Marketing, Sales & Service

- Create a video commercial
- Draw an advertisement
- Arrange silk flowers
- Have a bake sale
- Make jewelry out of beads, leather, etc.

- Create a hair salon stylist shop (All students use their own personal brush and accessories)

- Make over the classroom
- Have students create a room makeover

- Watch "Trading Spaces" Kids
- Watch Extreme Home Makeover
- Design school spirit wear
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

- Conduct simple science experiments for kids www.sciencemadesimple.com/
- Make a map of the stars
- Learn about different kinds of engineers

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

- Create hands on transportation centers with toy vehicles
- Create a play train station, bus station, marina, or airport using schedules, tickets, etc.

- Visit a transportation center
- Learn about subways.
- Discuss your local public transportation systems.