

# Grades 6-8

## INVESTIGATE CAREERS AND CAREER PATHWAYS 1.0

- 1 Distinguish among occupations, jobs, careers, and career pathways 1.1
- 2 Identify nationally recognized career clusters and examples of occupations and jobs for each cluster (e.g., [careertech.org/career-clusters](http://careertech.org/career-clusters)) 1.2
- 3 Research knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for employment in each career cluster 1.3
- 4 Evaluate personal values, aptitudes, and interests, and explain how they influence career decisions 1.4
- 5 Identify two or three career areas of interest using a career interest assessment platform 1.5
- 6 Acquire labor market information for jobs of interest including education and skills requirements, job responsibilities, and salaries 1.6
- 7 Evaluate academic studies and course planning for industry-specific training, certifications, and secondary/post-secondary education 1.7
- 8 Develop a career plan that includes academic studies and career-related education and training 1.8

## DEMONSTRATE FINANCIAL LITERACY 2.0

- 1 Describe personal financial literacy with emphasis on financial management, budgeting, and investing 2.1
- 2 Describe business financial literacy with emphasis on accounting, finance, and conducting business 2.2
- 3 Discuss the effect of personal values and lifestyle expectations on career choices (i.e., personal health, work content, work environment, work-life balance, etc.) 2.3
- 4 Analyze the relationship among education, financial needs, and job opportunities (i.e., education/training needed, short- and long-term career goals, availability and location of jobs, salaries vs. wages, etc.) 2.4
- 5 Investigate financial benefits that come with having a job/career (i.e., life insurance, health insurance, retirement plans, career development opportunities, college assistance, better salaries, etc.) 2.5

**APPLY CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS** 3.0

- 1 Give examples of critical thinking strategies/techniques (e.g., self-evaluation, self-reflection, asking questions, making informed decisions, using time wisely) 3.1
- 2 Identify the steps in problem-solving (e.g., define the problem; determine the cause of the problem; identify, prioritize, and select alternative solutions; and implement a solution) 3.2
- 3 Investigate problem-solving and critical-thinking processes and techniques to meet real-world challenges and personal decisions 3.3
- 4 Explain how problem-solving and critical-thinking skills are related to academic success (i.e., making good decisions, creative thinking, managing time and resources, etc.) 3.4
- 5 Determine the most effective personal problem-solving and critical thinking model and understand how this relates to career opportunities 3.5

**USE COLLABORATIVE AND TEAMBUILDING SKILLS** 4.0

- 1 Identify collaborative skills needed to achieve a common goal (i.e., open-mindedness, conflict resolution, active listening, emotional intelligence, delegation, understanding a variety of perspectives, managing priorities, meeting expectations, and having a cooperative spirit and mutual respect, etc.) 4.1
- 2 Identify skills that promote teamwork (i.e., leadership, motivation, problem-solving, reliability, etc.) 4.2
- 3 Practice behaviors that facilitate collaboration with peers (i.e., active listening, providing feedback, respecting the differences of others, taking personal responsibility, etc.) 4.3
- 4 Compare and contrast tools and skills used for in-person, hybrid, and virtual collaborative team settings 4.4
- 5 Employ digital and in-person tools and strategies to collaborate with individuals from diverse populations, including peers, experts, and community members 4.5

**PRACTICE INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS** 5.0

- 1 Differentiate between interpersonal skills and communication skills (e.g., Interpersonal skills include the ability to listen, interact, and build strong relationships, whereas communication skills cover the ability to transmit and articulate information.) 5.1
- 2 Identify and demonstrate various communication methods (i.e., verbal, nonverbal, written, visual, etc.) 5.2
- 3 Compare and contrast communication styles based on different audiences and purposes (i.e., talking to friends vs. adults, giving instructions or sharing a story, asking for help or giving information, etc.) 5.3
- 4 Discuss the impact of cultural, generational, and geographical differences on communication (i.e., preferences, misunderstandings, language barriers, etc.) 5.4

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**5 Use effective cross-cultural communication skills in person and virtually with diverse groups (i.e., avoid slang, speak slowly, keep it simple, write instructions, etc.)** 5.5

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**6 Practice professional workplace communication across various mediums to embrace effectiveness and professionalism (e.g., emails, business letters, resumes, texts, and social media)** 5.6

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**RECOGNIZE THE BENEFITS OF TECHNOLOGY TO CAREERS AND WORK** 6.0

**1 Explore the types and roles of technology in a variety of career clusters of interest** 6.1

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**2 Examine how technology advancements have impacted the workplace (i.e., quicker and more efficient productivity, job flexibility in what workers can do, changes in how work gets done, etc.)** 6.2

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**3 Demonstrate computer technology skills used in the workplace (i.e., emails, word processing to create a report, presentation software, and spreadsheet programs to gather data for analysis, etc.)** 6.3

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**4 Utilize industry-recognized technology tools to complete a career-related project (i.e., Microsoft Office, Google, Canva, AI, TinkerCAD, Scratch, etc.)** 6.4

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**5 Identify ethical issues in technology (i.e., misuse of data, misinformation, artificial intelligence, etc.)** 6.5

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**EXPLORE ACCOUNTABILITY AND ETHICAL BEHAVIORS RELATIVE TO WORK** 7.0

**1 Define accountability and ethical behaviors and discuss their importance in the workplace** 7.1

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**2 Explore the influence of personal behaviors and communication styles on workplace dynamics and outcomes** 7.2

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**3 Identify ethical and unethical behavior in workplace scenarios (i.e., confidentiality, race and ethnicity, employment discrimination, etc.)** 7.3

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**4 Demonstrate and describe appropriate work habits to obtain and retain employment (i.e., attendance, attitude, dress, performance, time management, cleanliness, etc.)** 7.4

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**5 Engage in professional, positive, safe, legal, and ethical behavior when using technology including social media interactions (i.e., digital citizenship, commonsense.org, be internet awesome, etc.)** 7.5

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