

Careers for Me SN

Teacher's Guide

Career Kids, LLC

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Careers for Me SN is a paper-pencil assessment used to start the process of career awareness with special needs students, often severely handicapped. Users should:

- Learn more about themselves and their personal interests
- Gain an awareness of various new job titles
- Learn about clusters
- Be encouraged to research a job which fits their interests
- Start the process of how they fit in with the world of work

Suggested Supplemental Materials

Students will go through a process of doing simple research, including talking to a family member or neighbor, looking at books, and observing people at work. There are some materials, such as *Able to Work Job Outlook*, which may also be helpful and appropriate for your students. Contact us for more information about available resources.

Level of Difficulty

We recommend that the teacher/counselor administering the assessment walk the students through it by reading the instructions with them. They may need assistance as they go through each picture. While there is a picture for every interest in the assessment, non-readers will still benefit by having the picture description read aloud.

Before Beginning Careers for Me

Here are some recommended questions to open the discussion about work and jobs with your students:

- Ask students why they believe school is important. Questions such as “What do you want

to be when you grow up?” are discussion openers. Tie in subjects or skills students they students have acquired and relate them to jobs.

- Ask the students to name the workers at their school (principal, janitor, cafeteria workers, etc.). Expand it to other parts of their community: the grocery store, the gas station, and so on.
- Discuss the concept of clusters. Demonstrate the variety of ways jobs can be grouped into families, or clusters, depending on the criteria. A good way to demonstrate this is to talk about jobs that work with animals. Brainstorm with: jobs where one works outdoors; jobs that work with food, etc.

The *Careers for Me* series is clustered in the following way:

- Environment and Agriculture
 - Arts and Communications
 - Business and Management
 - Industrial and Engineering Systems
 - Health Services
 - Human Resources/Services
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- Explain the reasons this interest assessment is being given to them. Remind the students that this is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers.
 - Discuss with the class the importance of goal setting. Setting up small goals is essential to reach the bigger goals. One example of a goal is turning in schoolwork complete and on time.

Taking Careers for Me SN

The folder should be open so that it lays flat. Students should be looking at rows of pictures. Each row is asking the students to circle their likes and interests for a cluster. The administrator should read the heading for each picture. Ask the students

to circle the picture if it is true for them as you read it aloud.

After reviewing all the pictures, the students should count how many they circled in each row. Take one row at a time, count the circles and write the number in the shape that belongs to the row. This is a good time to point out that some clusters have more circled, so they may be more interested in jobs that fit into that cluster.

When there is a number written in each shape, it is time to review the sample careers. Job titles may be difficult for young readers, so it will probably be necessary to read through the careers with the class. Direct the class to circle *all* careers which sound like something they might like.

Next, turn the flap over for the mini-research page. Students pick one job to research from the jobs they circled. They are also told to circle the cluster shape for the job they chose. From there, they can answer simple yes/no questions about this job.

Parent Signature

Getting a parent signature is, of course, optional. It is there to encourage student-parent discussion. Parents are encouraged to discuss goal-setting, school, and hobbies with their children. Parents can be introducing their children to a variety of jobs on a regular basis - every time they run errands, go to the doctor, and travel, for instance.

Activities

On the last page we included a simple word search activity.

Other products from Career Kids

Able to Work Job Outlook and Activities
(a Special Needs reference book)
Careers for Me Junior (grades K-3)
Careers for Me II (grades 3-7)
Careers for Me Plus (grades 7-9)
And more. . .

Please check our website at
www.careerkids.com
for hundreds of additional products as well as our
FREE
My First Resume, a resume-generating program

Calling all Teachers and Counselors

Please contact us if you have an idea for a new counseling product that you think will be helpful for other educators. We also want your feedback. If you are looking for something specific, please contact us and let us know. We'll try to find it for you.

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