

# lesson plan: career self-portrait

## Objectives

- Students will develop self-awareness and appreciation for their individual characteristics and uniqueness in relation to career development.
- Students will utilize various materials to represent their personal characteristics (interests, values, personalities) as they relate to the world of work.

**Grade level:** grades 9–12

## Expectations of students upon completion of activity

Students will create collage self-portraits that illustrate how their characteristics might look when applied in their ideal career.

**Teacher prep time:** 30–40 minutes

**Class time:** 60 minutes

## Materials

- construction paper
- pens
- pencils
- glue marker
- magazines
- newspapers
- scissors
- glue

**Format:** Group setting within the classroom

## Procedures

- Ask students to list their personal characteristics (including interests, values, and personality); encourage students to include words and phrases that they've used to describe themselves and that those who know them well have used to describe them.
- Have students select items from magazines, newspapers, and other materials that illustrate the words and phrases on their lists.
- Have students use the materials they've gathered to create career portraits.
- If time permits before students sign their portraits, have classmates try to identify to whom each portrait belongs.

## Related Web sites

- [www.vsac.org](http://www.vsac.org)
- [www.acrnetwork.org](http://www.acrnetwork.org)
- [www.cdm.uwaterloo.ca/step1.as](http://www.cdm.uwaterloo.ca/step1.as)

### **NCDA guidelines for personal social development**

- develop understanding of yourself to build and maintain a positive self-concept
- begin the first steps in career management
- use a process of decision-making as one component of career development
- use accurate, current, and unbiased career information during career planning

### **Vermont's Framework of Standards vital results**

Section 3 Personal Development Standards — Making Decisions

3.7 Informed decisions — Students make informed decisions in the workplace.

3.15 Career choices — Students know about various careers.

### **VTSCA career standards**

Standard A: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self, and to make informed career decisions.

Standard C: Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training and the world of work.



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