



Title: Work: Love It or Hate It:?

Grade: 9

Career Development Model:

Career Exploration • Career Planning & Management

Nebraska Career Readiness Standards:

- Communicates effectively & appropriately
- Demonstrates innovation & creativity
- Manages personal career development

Objective:

- Students will interview adults employed in the world of work.
- Students will compare and contrast aspects working adult stories.
- Students will develop a mission statement based on their reflections of the stories.

Materials and Supplies Needed:

- Work: Love It or Hate It? Interview Form
- Work: Love It or Hate It? Reflections Questions
- White board and markers

Class Instructions:

Part 1

1. Teachers introduce the lesson by talking about how adults with experience in the world of work could help inform students' decisions about their future in terms of what to do or not to do. By interviewing adults with different life experiences and perceptions of their jobs, and then sharing what they've learned in small groups, students can reflect on the stories of two different people and develop a mission statement about their own hopes for their future careers.
2. Ask students, "In what ways can work have a negative or positive impact on one's personal or family life? Alternatively, in what ways can one's personal or family life have a negative or positive impact on their work?" Encourage students to come up with real-life examples from their own family.
3. Then ask students, "Why do you think some people hate their work? Why do some people end up loving their work? How do people wind up sometimes doing work they are not happy with?" These questions should stimulate a lot of discussion. Again, encourage students to think of real-life examples.

Part 2

1. Tell students that they will be conducting two interviews, one with an adult in their family or community who claims to be happy or satisfied with his/her work, and one adult who claims to be unhappy or unsatisfied with his/her work. The interviews will ask the adults the same questions we have just been talking about together.
2. Distribute the "Interview Form" and "Reflection Questions". Be sure to provide a due date and ask if students have questions about what is expected after explaining how to complete both handouts. Prior to the lesson, be sure to recruit volunteers who are willing to be interviewees just in case students have trouble finding someone to interview.

Part 3

1. When students come back to class, break them into groups to share their interview responses with each other, with a focus on finding some aspects of the stories that are common threads. Teachers can circulate to help guide discussions.
2. Next, ask students to share their responses to the "Reflection Questions". Record their responses on the board in a T-chart with the headings as: Loves Work vs. Hates Work. Invite students to discuss openly the answers they have on the board.
3. Assign for homework the creation of a "Mission Statement", based on what they learned from the interviews and today's discussions. Provide an example of a personal mission statement that spells out their future hopes, worries, fears, dreams, and so on, about what they want and don't want out of a career.

Credits/Sources:



"Making my Future Work: A College and Career Readiness Program", U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences.

<https://www.csuohio.edu/cehs/mmfw/making-my-future-work-0>

WORK...LOVE IT OR HATE IT?

INTERVIEW QUESTION FORM

INTERVIEW #1 "I love my work."	INTERVIEW #2 "I hate or dislike my work."
What do you do for a living?	What do you do for a living?
Tell me about how you got into your line of work.	Tell me about how you got into your line of work.
Do you like your job?	Do you like your job?
What were your plans for work when you were my age?	What were your plans for work when you were my age?
What things make your work satisfying for you?	What things make your work unsatisfying for you?
Was there a time when you weren't happy with your work? What changed?	If you could do anything now, what would you do? Why?
What lessons has your work life taught you?	What lessons has your work life taught you?
Are there any words of wisdom you'd like to pass along to me?	Are there any words of wisdom you'd like to pass along to me?

WORK...LOVE IT OR HATE IT?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Question 1: What do you think would lead you to LOVE your work?

Question 2: What do you think would lead you to HATE your work?

Question 3: What can you do while you're in high school to point you in the direction of finding work that you love?

Question 4: What is one of the most valuable pieces of learning from this assignment that you'll take with you into your own future career planning?