

Unit 3 – Overview: The Journey To Be Career-Ready!

Overview

In this unit, students will explore what it really means to be career-ready. They will consider the role their individual strengths, talents, education, experiences and interests play in planning for the future and making purposeful choices. Students will complete a Career Readiness Plan, including the selection of specific courses to help them become career-ready.

Outcomes

Students will create a career readiness plan that will guide them to be career-ready. Students may create a PowerPoint presentation, Prezi presentation, iMovie or written report. After taking both skills and interest assessments on Nebraska Career Connections, students will select a specific career. Students will explain how their skills and talents are used in the career, education and training requirements and identify activities and work experiences, which will help them be career-ready. Students will also complete a Personal Learning Plan, listing specific courses and extended learning opportunities the student should complete before graduation.

- Essential Question 1: What does it mean to be career-ready?
 - Key Concept 1: A career-ready person capitalizes on personal strengths, talents, education and experiences to bring value to the workplace and the community through his or her performance, skill, diligence, ethics and responsible behavior.
- Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me?
 - Key Concept 1: The right career path for me will allow me to lead a fulfilling life.
 - Key Concept 2: Effective career plans are the catalyst to a successful career. They are living documents with core components that will allow me to reflect and adjust my plan based on evolving opportunities.
 - Key Concept 3: It is normal and healthy for me to change my mind during the process if I make the necessary adjustments to my plan.
- Essential Question 3: How will my choices today affect my future?
 - Key Concept 1: My activities, work experiences and courses have relevance in shaping my career path.
 - Key Concept 2: Completing high school and post-secondary education are not my only goals; they are the means to my real goal of being career-ready.

| Session | Key Events |
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| <p>1 Unit Introduction: <i>The Journey To Be Career-Ready!</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce the Essential Questions for Unit 3. • Complete a personal growth challenge. • Define “career readiness.” |
| <p>2 Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-1 - Importance of Being Career-Ready</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 1: What does it mean to be career-ready? • Review Nebraska Career Readiness Standards. • Explore the importance of being career-ready. |
| <p>3 Self-Directed Learning: <i>Topic 3-1 - Importance of Being Career-Ready</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed inquiry into Essential Question 1: What does it mean to be career-ready? • Create role-plays showcasing the Nebraska Career Readiness Standards. • Complete the Nebraska Career Connections skills assessment. |
| <p>4 Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-1 - Importance of Being Career-Ready</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 1: What does it mean to be career-ready? • Create a personal timeline. • Identify experiences and education that will be used in the future. |
| <p>5 Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-2 - Living a Fulfilling Life</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me? • Discuss the three concepts. • Read and discuss “Brad’s Story.” |
| <p>6 Self-Directed Learning: <i>Topic 3-2 - Living a Fulfilling Life</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed inquiry into Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me? • Create a forward-looking timeline. • Complete the Nebraska Career Connections interest assessment. |
| <p>7 Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-2 - Choosing the Right Career</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me? • Explore the decision-making process. • Select one career for the Unit 3 Milestone Project. |
| <p>8 Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-2 - Choosing the Right Career</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me? • Identify potential road-blocks. • Explore jobs versus careers. |

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| 9 | Self-Directed Learning: <i>Topic 3-2 - It is Okay to Change My Mind</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed inquiry into Essential Question 2: What is the right career path for me? • Interview a professional about the path to his or her career. • Identify other occupations that use a similar skill set to the selected career. |
| 10 | Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-3 - Today's Choices Matter</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 3: How will my choices today affect my future? • Define "relevance." • Brainstorm relevant activities, experiences and courses. |
| 11 | Self-Directed Learning: <i>Topic 3-3 -Today's Choices Matter</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 3: How will my choices today affect my future? • Complete a team challenge. • Identify relevant activities, experiences and courses. |
| 12 | Guided Instruction: <i>Topic 3-3 - Personal Learning Plan</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided inquiry into Essential Question 3: How will my choices today affect my future? • Explore Personal Learning Plans. • Complete a Personal Learning Plan. |
| 13 | Self-Directed Learning: <i>Topic 3-3 - Personal Learning Plan</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed inquiry into Essential Question 3: How will my choices today affect my future? • View Education Quest video "College Doesn't Just Happen." • Create a collage of opportunities available after graduation. |
| 14 & 15 | Milestone Project: <i>Construction & Feedback</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine and complete the Unit 3 Milestone Project. • Self-evaluate the Unit 3 Milestone Project using the Milestone Project Rubric: Unit 3. • Meet with the teacher to receive feedback on the Unit 3 Milestone Project. |
| 16 & 17 | Milestone Project: <i>Showcase & Final Assessment</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showcase completed Unit 3 Milestone Project. • Complete final evaluation of the Unit 3 Milestone Project. |
| 18 | Optional: End-of-Unit 3 Exam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the End-of-Unit 3 Exam and course evaluation. |