

Walking The Path: Lesson 3 ***Career Pathways***

“If you do follow your bliss, you put yourself on a kind of track that has been there all the while waiting for you, and the life you ought to be living is the one you are living ... I say, follow your bliss and don't be afraid, and doors will open where you didn't know they were going to be.”

Joseph Campbell
1904-1987

Guiding Question:

What direction will my journey take?

Lesson Goal

Students will understand that finding the right direction in college and career involves knowing themselves, their interests, and their skills.

Short Summary

In this lesson, students will read an Indian story and relate it to finding direction in their college journey. They will take an interest inventory and begin thinking about possible careers based on their interests, and fill out a planning checklist to start the college preparation process.

Skills Emphasized

- Drawing inferences
- Connecting skills and interests to careers
- Planning for future goals

Materials Needed

- *Reading Selection: Why the North Star Stands Still*
- Interest inventories
- Career Interests worksheet
- Planning Checklists for High School from www.firstinthefamily.org

Lesson Design

Begin the lesson by having students read the Paiute story of “Why the North Star Stands Still.” Challenge them to decide what this story has to do with journeys, college, and finding direction. After reading, have them share their thoughts with a partner. Discussion should focus on how people from ancient times to the present find direction by the North Star, the mountain as a journey, Na-gah’s determination and ultimate success, etc.

Next, if they haven’t already done so, students will take an interest inventory. Tell students that one way to find direction for their journey to college and career is to start building on their interests and thinking about careers that will use those interests and skills.

If your school does not already have an interest inventory, you can use Career Party PDF available on the CNE web site.

Additional material can be obtained from *Learn More* Indiana:

<http://www.learnmoreindiana.org/careers/exploring/InterestInventories/Pages/Home.aspx>

You might also use the student interest inventory called *Start Where You Are* from the **Vermont Student Assistance Corp**:

<http://www.startwhereyouarevt.org>

After taking the inventory, group students with similar interest results. Have them complete the Career Interests Worksheet individually, and then share their responses as a group. Note that even with similar interest results, their career goals may look quite different.

Next, download the high school planning checklists from www.firstinthefamily.org and have students fill out the checklist for their grade level based on their inventory results.

Finally, have students complete the journal entry for this part of their journey.

Day Three

Today on our journey, we were lost for a time and discovered how important it is to find the right direction. I learned the right direction for me might be...

If I take this direction, I must...