

Career Readiness: Discovery & Professional Pathways

As a Role Model, you are here to help students start thinking critically about their future careers. Whether you are currently navigating your education or established in your career, your story helps students explore diverse pathways, identify their unique strengths, and build the confidence to pursue their own professional goals.

Self-Discovery and Alignment

- **Strength Identification:** Helping students recognize what they are good at and how those talents apply to a job.
- **Passion & Purpose:** Encouraging students to think about what they enjoy and how it can become a career.
- **Values in the Workplace:** Discussing what matters most in a job (e.g., helping people, solving problems, or building things).
- **Transferable Talents:** Showing how skills used in school or sports are the same ones used in professional careers.

Exploring the World of Work

- **Educational Pathways:** Discussing the different types of training, certifications, or college degrees needed for various careers.
- **Alternative Routes:** Introducing high-impact careers that prioritize trades, specialized skills, or entrepreneurship.
- **Industry Overview:** Giving students a look into different sectors and what the future of those jobs looks like.
- **The Reality of the Role:** Helping students understand what people in specific jobs *actually* do every day.

Making Informed Career Choices

- **Finding the Right Fit:** Strategies for students to determine if a career path matches their personality and interests.
- **Entrepreneurship vs. Employment:** Thinking about the choice between starting a company and working within one.
- **Career Clusters:** Helping students see how one interest (like technology or art) can lead to dozens of different job titles.
- **Goal Setting:** How to start making small choices now that lead to big opportunities later.

Professional Presence and Growth

- **First Impressions:** The importance of how you present yourself—online and in person—to the professional world.
- **Proof of Skill:** Understanding how to show your work through resumes, portfolios, or projects.
- **High-Impact Communication:** Why clear and professional speaking is a requirement in every career.
- **Strategic Networking:** Helping students think about the people in their circle and how those connections lead to opportunities.

