

## **MJ Career Research and Decision Making**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to explore careers/career clusters and make informed career choices. Activities enable students to increase self-awareness and develop the skills needed to successfully plan for postsecondary education and the workplace. Career assessment should include interests, aptitudes, and basic skills. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include job shadowing, field trips, and mentors. Work-based activities allow students to evaluate their career choices as they relate to actual careers at the worksite.

The content should include, but not be limited to, the following:

Self-awareness to include interests, values, skills, learning styles, etc.

Goal-setting and decision-making processes

Exploring careers/career clusters and educational requirements

Postsecondary education and training opportunities

Workplace skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, time management, computer, etc.

Career and education planning

## **Orientation to Career Clusters**

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the seventeen career clusters. This course is a compilation of modules for each of the seventeen career clusters and is designed to provide flexibility in course offerings. Any number of modules can be selected to comprise a course that meets the needs of the students.

The content includes, but is not limited to, the orientation of students to career pathways in the career and technical education field. Reinforcement of academic skills occurs through classroom instruction and applied laboratory procedures. This course is recommended for students in the sixth grade, but not required.

Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

The length of this course is one semester. It may be offered for two semesters when appropriate. When offered for one semester, it is recommended that it be at the exploratory level and more in-depth when offered for two semesters.