

**Unit # 1 Title:** Who Am I as a Career?

**Lesson Title:** Tootsie Roll, Tootsie Roll, Who Art Thou? (Part 1) **Lesson:** 1 of 2

**Grade Level:** 6

**Length of Lesson:** 30 minutes

**Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards**  
**ELA:** SL.6.1, SL.6.4  
**ELA:** L.6.1, L.6.3, L.6.4, L.6.5, L.6.6  
**ELA:** WHST.6-8.7  
<https://districtaccess.mde.k12.ms.us/curriculumandInstruction/MississippiCurriculumFrameworks/ELA/2016-MS-CCRS-ELA.pdf>

**American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Mindsets and Behaviors:**  
M 2, M 4, M 5  
B-LS.1, B-LS.2, B-LS.4, B-LS.7, B-LS.9  
B-SMS.1, B-SMS.5  
B-SS.1, B-SS.5, B-SS.6, B-SS.7, B-SS.8, B-SS.9  
<https://schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/home/MindsetsBehaviors.pdf>

**Materials (include activity sheets and/or supporting resources)**

**Please note:** This strategy requires the use of a product wrapper to emphasize the involvement and importance of the roles of all workers creating a product and getting it into the hands of the purchaser. The unit/lessons were developed before the new Guidelines for Healthy Snacks were issued. We retained the use of the Tootsie Roll as an example with the caveat that the presenter review the Healthy Snack Guidelines and local school district’s implementation policy. As for any lesson involving food, health implications must be considered regarding food allergies and sensitivities. Doing so puts into action our own respect for diversity and for our roles as agents of school board policies and Mississippi Department of Education rules and regulations.

Resources: Career Path Descriptions Sheet  
Career Path Posters (set of 6)

Activity sheets: Career Path Group Project Form  
Occupation Cards  
Worker Interview Form  
Tootsie Roll (or similar product)

**Enduring Life Skill(s)**

|   |              |   |              |   |                 |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|---|-----------------|
|   | Perseverance | X | Integrity    | X | Problem Solving |
| X | Courage      |   | Compassion   | X | Tolerance       |
| X | Respect      | X | Goal Setting | X | Responsibility  |

**Lesson Measurable Learning Objectives:**

A student will categorize 36 jobs into six career paths.

**Lesson Formative Assessment (acceptable evidence):**

**Assessment should relate to the performance outcome for goals and objectives.**  
**Assessment can be question/answer, performance activity, etc.**  
 The student will categorize 36 jobs into the six career paths.  
 The student will complete a work interview, using findings from activities and card sort.

**Lesson Preparation**

**Essential Questions:** How do the career paths relate to who you are?

**Engagement (Hook):** Students will be asked to think of something that they have to do, but don't like. Then, they will be asked to think of doing that activity eight hours a day, 40 hours a week for 40 years. Although they would be paid well, they would be locked into that task.

Next, students are asked to imagine something that they enjoy doing. Then they will be asked to imagine doing that task eight hours a day, 40 hours a week for 40 years. Students will be encouraged to recognize that if they are going into a career, it will be a good idea to choose something based on who they are and what they like to do.

**Procedures for Session 1**

| <b>Instructor Procedures/Instructional Strategies:</b>  | <b>Student Involvement/Instructional Activities:</b>   |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review career paths and the attributes of the individuals who work in them, utilizing career path description handout. Display career paths posters on the board or wall.</li> <li>2. Divide students into task groups. Each group will be given the following materials: Activity Sheet: Career Path Group Project Forms, at least six Occupation Cards per group (see Resource: Occupation Cards), pencil, and sticky tack/tape.</li> </ol> <p>Counselors and students will review the established group norms, such as respecting the opinions of others, cooperation, listening, etc.</p> <p>Students are given a five-minute time limit to perform the task.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will respond to a question-answer session, such as, "Which path is the fixing and building path?"</li> <li>2. Given occupation cards, students will confer in their task groups and determine which career path an occupation matches. Each student within the group will be assigned a cooperative group role: For example, <b>a recorder</b> who writes group answers on the project form; <b>a materials person</b> who is responsible for bringing materials to and from the group; <b>a sticky tack or tape person</b> who is responsible for this item; and <b>a poster</b> to post occupation cards on the board/wall.</li> </ol> <p>Once the group has made a decision about where each of those jobs fits, the</p> |

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| <p>3. The class will review the answers given by the groups as displayed on the board or wall and make any necessary adjustments based on class check. Note: Some careers may be justifiably placed in more than one career path. When there is noticeable disagreement among class members, this can be addressed accordingly.</p> <p>4. (Read note in materials section) Tootsie Roll review of Career Paths: The counselor holds up a bag of Tootsie Rolls with the back of the package facing the students and asks, “What do you think is in this package?” “How do you know what is inside without seeing the name of the candy?” “Someone had to design the package so that when you see it, you would know what was inside. Which career path would this be?” (Arts and communication)</p> <p>5. The counselor will then read from the package ingredient list, i.e., sugar, partially hydrogenated soybean oil, milk, etc. “Which career path produces these items?” (Natural resources)</p> <p>6. “Now, imagine that you are working in the Tootsie Roll factory. Suddenly, the Tootsie Roll machine breaks down. Which career path are you going to call for help?” (Industrial and engineering technology)</p> <p>7. “When is the best time to ship more Tootsie Rolls to the store—before or after Halloween? This is called marketing. Someone in an office needs to figure out where and when to make more candy. Which career path is this?” (Business, management, and technology)</p> | <p><b>poster</b> from the group will post the occupation cards under the appropriate path poster (on the chalkboard or wall of the classroom).</p> <p>3. The class will check the answers with the following non-verbal signs: yes, thumbs up; maybe, thumbs sideways; no, thumbs down.</p> <p>4. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> <p>5. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> <p>6. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> <p>7. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> |
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| <p>8. “Your mom has bought a bag of Tootsie Rolls. You ask her if you can have one serving. One serving is... (Read from the nutritional information on the package). Who determines serving size, calories, and other nutritional information?” (Health services)</p> <p>9. “You are a chef in a restaurant. You have come up with a new recipe of Tootsie Roll Surprise, a super brownie that features Tootsie Rolls. What career path would your job fall into?” (Human services)</p> <p>10. Ask students: As we were talking about the roles of the many workers it took to get the Tootsie Roll to the people who buy or use them, what did you imagine? What were you wondering? What did our conversation make you remember from other conversations about workers? What do you still want to know about workers and their roles in our lives?</p> <p>11. Distribute the activity sheet Worker Interview (two to each student—one for practice interview; another for actual interview). Tell students that they will be interviewing a worker they know regarding his or her occupation. But first, they’ll practice by interviewing a peer-partner.</p> <p>Ask students what they remember/know about conducting interviews. As students identify what they remember, make a list on the board (or other media that will allow for all students to see the list). Review the list; add and/or synthesize skills so that students know that successful (and interesting) interviewing requires the use of a variety of skills they can learn.</p> <p>12. Randomly assign students a peer-partner. Each person will have an opportunity to be the interviewee and the interviewer. As the</p> | <p>8. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> <p>9. Students will respond to questions as a check for understanding.</p> <p>10. In small groups, pairs or as a large group, students will respond with personalized information about their own thought processes during the conversation.</p> <p>11. Students will contribute to list of interviewing skills.</p> <p>12. Students will select the worker role they will assume, review Worker Interview</p> |
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| <p>interviewee, each person will assume the role of a worker and respond to the questions as if he or she was working in that work role (encourage outrageous roles).</p> <p>Give students time to review the activity sheet Worker Interview from the perspective of the interviewee or the interviewer. At the end of five minutes, stop the interviews for a quick check of the process. Have partners switch roles and follow the same procedures.</p> <p>13. Following students’ practice interviews, facilitate a discussion about the easy/hard parts of the process and the questions that will be difficult to ask an adult. Respond to questions. Assign the due date for completion of the interview.</p> <p>14. Help students identify potential individuals to interview. Writing down the names of the interviewees will strengthen students’ commitment to completing the project.</p> <p>Note: The most readily available worker is a parent or caregiver—students may also interview someone from the community. Whomever students choose to interview may be employed in the civilian workforce, unemployed, or a stay-at-home parent. Encourage students to consider whatever the interviewee is doing as his or her job. The same questions apply (with minor modifications) to any job, and the students will gain a wealth of information about work, working, and workers by interviewing people who are not in the civilian workforce. This will help students develop greater understanding and respect for all people. Alternatively, students may choose to ask individuals who are unemployed or stay-at-home parents to respond from the perspective of a past work role they had in the civilian workforce.</p> | <p>questions, and participate in practice interviews.</p> <p>13. Students will reflect on process and ask clarifying questions about the procedures and/or process.</p> <p>14. Students will complete the worker interview forms in keeping with the instructions given by the counselor.</p> |
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Teacher Follow-Up Activities

Ask the classroom teacher to collect student interviews in preparation for the next guidance session. Some communication arts teachers may be interested in working with the counselor in

a team-teaching capacity by having students write an essay about their interview, using the interview form as a prewriting tool.

Counselor reflection notes (completed after the lesson)

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| *One copy for each student |
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## Resource: Career Path Descriptions

Career paths are groupings of occupations by the tasks/roles of workers. People working in a specific career path typically share interests, abilities, and talents. Career paths help you identify a career focus without being locked into a specific occupation.

### **Arts and Communication**

Occupations in this path are related to humanities and performing, visual, literary, and media arts. These include architecture; graphic, interior, and fashion design; writing; film; fine arts; journalism; languages; media; advertising; and public relations.

### **Business, Management, and Technology**

Occupations in this path are related to the business environment. These include entrepreneurship, sales, marketing, computer/information systems, finance, accounting, personnel, economics, and management.

### **Health Services**

Occupations in this path are related to the promotion of health and treatment of disease. These include research, prevention, treatment, and related health technologies.

### **Human Services**

Occupations in this path are related to economic, political, and social systems. These include education, government, law and law enforcement, leisure and recreation, military, religion, child care, social services, and personal services.

### **Industrial and Engineering Technology**

Occupations in this path are related to technologies necessary to design develop, install, and maintain physical systems. These include engineering, manufacturing, construction, service, and related technologies.

### **Natural Resources/Agriculture**

Occupations in this path are related to agriculture, the environment, and natural resources. These include agriculture sciences, earth sciences, environmental sciences, fisheries, forestry, horticulture, and wildlife.

\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# ARTS & COMMUNICATION



## Creative Path



\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY



## Business Path

\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



## Fixing and Building Path

\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# HUMAN SERVICES



## Helping Path

\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# HEALTH SERVICES



## Health Path

\*One copy to be posted on the board or wall

# NATURAL RESOURCES



## Nature Path

**Activity Sheet: Career Path Group Project Form**

\*One copy for each task group

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>ARTS &amp; COMMUNICATION</b>                | <b>BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b> |
| <b>INDUSTRIAL &amp; ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</b> | <b>HEALTH SERVICES</b>                       |
| <b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>                          | <b>NATURAL RESOURCES</b>                     |

\*Cut along lines. Give six cards to each task group, making sure that they have an assortment of career paths represented in their bundles.

### Resource: Occupation Cards

|                           |                                   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Hotel/Motel Clerk</b>  | <b>Computer Programmer</b>        |
| <b>Paralegal</b>          | <b>Loan Officer</b>               |
| <b>Travel Agent</b>       | <b>Retail Sales Person</b>        |
| <b>Chiropractor</b>       | <b>Dentist</b>                    |
| <b>Dental Assistant</b>   | <b>Physical Therapy Assistant</b> |
| <b>Speech Pathologist</b> | <b>Nurse Aide</b>                 |

|                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Lawyer</b>                     | <b>Pastor/Priest/Rabbi</b> |
| <b>Firefighter</b>                | <b>Teacher</b>             |
| <b>Barber</b>                     | <b>Recreation Worker</b>   |
| <b>Computer Repair Technician</b> | <b>Architect</b>           |
| <b>Printing Press Operator</b>    | <b>Locksmith</b>           |
| <b>Floral Designer/Florist</b>    | <b>Photographer</b>        |
| <b>Welder</b>                     | <b>Painter/Paperhanger</b> |



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| <b>Pest Control Worker</b>             | <b>Zoologist</b>            |
| <b>Fish Hatchery Worker</b>            | <b>Meteorologist</b>        |
| <b>Forester/Conservation Scientist</b> | <b>Farmer</b>               |
| <b>Actor</b>                           | <b>Professional Athlete</b> |
| <b>Composer</b>                        | <b>Reporter</b>             |

## Resource: Occupation Card Sort Answers

### Business, Management,

#### and Technology

Hotel/Motel Clerk  
Paralegal  
Loan Officer  
Computer Programmer  
Travel Agent  
Retail Sales Person

### Arts and Communication

Photographer  
Actor  
Composer  
Reporter  
Floral Designer/Florist  
Professional Athlete

### Health Services

Chiropractor  
Dentist  
Dental Assistant  
Physical Therapy Assistant  
Speech Pathologist  
Nursing Assistant

### Industrial and Engineering

#### Technology

Computer Repair Technician  
Printing Press Operator  
Locksmith  
Welder  
Painter/Paperhanger  
Architect

### Human Services

Lawyer  
Firefighter  
Teacher  
Barber  
Pastor/Priest/Rabbi  
Recreation Worker

### Natural Resources/

#### Agriculture

Fish Hatchery Worker  
Meteorologist  
Zoologist  
Pest Control Worker  
Farmer  
Forester/Conservation Scientist

**Activity Sheet: Worker Interview**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Whom did you interview? \_\_\_\_\_

Career: \_\_\_\_\_

Career Path: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions to Ask the Person You Interview:**

Why is your job important to your company, organization, or community?

What led you to this career?

How many hours do you work each day? \_\_\_\_\_

How many days do you work each week? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your work and working conditions (including your likes/dislikes):

What special skills or talents are needed for this job (including technology)?

What high school courses helped you prepare for this job?

What education or training beyond high school prepared you for this job?

What do you want to be doing ten (10) years from now?