COURSE INTRODUCTION:

Career Development
The units in career development are designed to assist students in developing the knowledge and skills to make sound decisions about their educational and career goals. Recognizing that career development is a life-long process, these units build around the concepts of career awareness in the elementary grades, career exploration at the middle school level, and planning and decision making at the high school level. The ultimate outcome is that all students will develop and maintain a rigorous and relevant personal plan of study that will guide them into a successful post-secondary transition. The three major areas covered are:

Applying career exploration and planning skills in the achievement of life career goals.
Major Points: This area includes individual planning skills as vital learning for K-12 students. Career exploration and planning skills are developmental in nature and build upon each of the other domains. Career exploration emphasizes the dignity and necessity of all work and workers; the role of preferences and skills in job satisfaction and the concept of a “balanced life.” Included will be the inter-relationship of all parts of one’s life (e.g. family, community, work, and personal interests) across the life span. The concept of life career planning emphasizes the integration of knowledge and understanding of skills required in the world of work and daily living.

Knowing where and how to obtain information about the world of work and post-secondary training/education.
Major Points: This area is intended to help K-12 students know how to seek information that is credible, age-appropriate, and unbiased. Students will be provided with systematic and sequential opportunities to learn about and understand the level of preparation required for various occupations (e.g., apprenticeships, career and technical education, 4-year/2-year college or university, and the military). Knowledge, skill and understanding will include the kinds of career information resources available (e.g., print/electronic/personal interviews) and how to access the information independently. The purpose is to add to the individual’s ability to be an advocate for self.

Applying skills for career readiness and success.
Major Points: Employment readiness is considered to be developmental in nature and includes helping K-12 students develop individual skills of: responsibility taking, dependability, punctuality, integrity, self-management and effort. In addition, employment readiness skills include appreciation and respect for other’s differences and the ability to work effectively as a team member to accomplish the goals of the organization. These are the skills that contribute to work performance and add value to one’s contribution in the classroom and in the workplace.
**UNIT DESCRIPTION:** Making Connections  
Students will make the connection between activities and interests and future careers, connections between jobs and the academic skills necessary for those jobs, connections between/among all work and workers.

**SUGGESTED UNIT TIMELINE:** 2 Lessons  
**CLASS PERIOD (min.):** 30 minutes each

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**  
1. What is the relationship between strengths, interests, and careers?

**CROSSWALK TO STANDARDS**

**Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards:**

**ELA:**  
W.2.2, W.2.5, W.2.8, SL.2.1, SL.2.1B, SL.2.2, SL.2.3, SL.2.4, SL.2.6, L.2.1, L.2.2, L.2.3, L.2.6  
[https://districtaccess.mde.k12.ms.us/curriculumandInstruction/MississippiCurriculumFrameworks/ELA/2016-MS-CCRS-ELA.pdf](https://districtaccess.mde.k12.ms.us/curriculumandInstruction/MississippiCurriculumFrameworks/ELA/2016-MS-CCRS-ELA.pdf)

**Math:**  

**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](https://schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/home/MindsetsBehaviors.pdf)

**ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTIONS***:**
The following formative assessment from Lesson 3 of this unit will be used as the summative unit assessment.  
**Performance Task:** Students will write a friendly letter of appreciation to a community worker including:  
- relationship of job to a career path,  
- skills students observes worker using, and  
- the importance of worker and his or her job to the community.
### INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES (research-based): (Teacher Methods)

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<tr>
<th>Obj. #</th>
<th>Direct</th>
<th>Indirect</th>
<th>Experiential</th>
<th>Independent study</th>
<th>Interactive Instruction</th>
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See:
1. Lesson #1: Connecting the Dots: Activities/Interests to Careers
2. Lesson #2: Connecting the Dots: Linking Academic Skills to the Career Paths
3. Lesson #3: Connecting the Dots: Workers and Their Importance

### INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: (What Students Do)

See:
1. Lesson #1: Connecting the Dots: Activities/Interests to Careers
2. Lesson #2: Connecting the Dots: Linking Academic Skills to the Career Paths
3. Lesson #3: Connecting the Dots: Workers and Their Importance

**Direct:**
- Structured Overview
- Lecture
- Explicit Teaching
- Drill & Practice
- Compare & Contrast
- Didactic Questions
- Demonstrations
- Guided & Shared - reading, listening, viewing, thinking (Ls. 1,2,3)

**Indirect:**
- Problem Solving
- Case Studies
- Reading for Meaning
- Inquiry
- Reflective Discussion
- Writing to Inform
- Concept Formation
- Concept Mapping
- Concept Attainment
- Cloze Procedure

**Experiential:**
- Field Trips
- Narratives (Ls. 1,2,3)
- Conducting Experiments
- Simulations
- Games
- Storytelling
- Focused Imaging
- Role-playing
- Model Building
- Surveys

**Independent Study:**
- Essays
- Computer Assisted Instruction
- Journals
- Learning Logs
- Reports
- Learning Activity Packages
- Correspondence Lessons
- Learning Contracts
- Homework
- Research Projects
- Assigned Questions
- Learning Centers

**Interactive Instruction:**
- Debates
- Role Playing
- Panels
- Brainstorming (Ls. 1,2,3)
- Peer Partner Learning
- Discussion (Ls. 1,2,3)
- Laboratory Groups
- Think, Pair, Share
- Cooperative Learning
- Jigsaw
- Problem Solving
- Structured Controversy
- Tutorial Groups
- Interviewing
- Conferencing

### UNIT RESOURCES:

ASCA National Standards for Students (ASCA), accessed June 11, 2013, from [http://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/ASCA_National_Standards_for_Students.pdf](http://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/ASCA_National_Standards_for_Students.pdf)