Earning an Income

1. List five qualities that make you special.

2. List five things you would like to improve about yourself.

3. List five skills that you would like to learn.

4. List five things you do very well.

5. List five things you enjoy doing.

6. List five things you do not enjoy doing.

My Skills Inventory

Earning an Income

In Oklahoma City (data available at http://stats.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm). Discuss possible skills and education needed for various jobs, especially those with the highest and lowest salaries. Ask students which, if any, of these jobs would be possible careers for them.

Procedure

1. Ask students to list different kinds of jobs available for people to choose. Talk about educational requirements for each of them. Have them discuss the kinds of jobs they would like to have, why they would like to do that job and why those jobs are necessary today.

2. Using the classified section of the newspaper, have students explore the “help wanted” ads to see what kinds of jobs are advertised and what qualifications are needed for them. Ask students to count the number of jobs listed in each category and create a bar graph of the results. Have students compute the percentage of jobs for each category and create a pie chart of the results.

3. Have students find 10 different advertised positions and list the annual salary for each. (Note: Remind them to multiply weekly salaries by 52 and monthly salaries by 12 for annual salary amounts). Have each student rank the 10 jobs from the highest to lowest. If possible, allow students to compare the jobs listed with the average salary of those jobs in Oklahoma City (data available at http://stats.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm). Discuss possible skills and education needed for various jobs, especially those with the highest and lowest salaries. Ask students which, if any, of these jobs would be possible careers for them.

Parent Option

Help your child read through the classified help wanted ads to locate 10 different job listings. Discuss the selected jobs with your child and have them talk with any friends or relatives in similar positions. As you discuss the requirements and responsibilities for each job, encourage your child to indicate which jobs sound most interesting and which do not. Have your child rank order them, from most desirable to least desirable. Help them write a letter explaining the reasons they would be a good prospect for one of the jobs. Remind your child that salary is not always the best indication of job satisfaction or desirability.

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