

Calendar Activities

The Workforce calendar was created by the Southern Tier Teacher Center Network and distributed to all middle and high school teachers in the Southern Tier. This document contains suggestions for monthly activities that correlate with the calendar.

Catskill Regional Teacher Center

Cincinnatus Teacher Center

Cortland County Teacher Center

Dryden Teachers Center

Endicott Educational Resource Center

Johnson City Teacher Center

Lansing - Groton Teacher Resource and Technology Center

Owego Apalachin Teacher Resource and Technology Center

Schuyler Chemung Tioga/Corning Teacher Center

Southern Tier School/Community Network

Tioga County Teacher Center

Teacher Center of Broome County





Calendar Activity Guide

**Correlating with the Workforce New York calendar distributed to all Southern Tier teachers through a grant awarded to the Southern Tier Teacher Center Network*



NOVEMBER 2009

CareerZone Lesson Plans: Incorporate these NYS standards-aligned lesson plans into daily classroom activities.

<http://www.nycareerzone.org/cz/resources/lessonplans.jsp>

Election 101: Have students brainstorm the details that go into the election process. From speech writing to managing a polling site to press coverage there are numerous jobs surrounding an election. Simulate activities and discuss the academic skills and content areas that support each.

NCES Kids' Zone: An interactive website for elementary students. It provides information to learn about schools; decide on a college; find a public library; engage in several games, quizzes and skill building about math, probability, graphing, and mathematics; and to learn many interesting facts about education. <http://www.nycareerzone.org/framegrabber.jsp?http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/index.asp>

What Do You Like?: Website for middle and high school students. Occupation summaries sorted by subjects, interests and hobbies common among students. <http://www.nycareerzone.org/framegrabber.jsp?http://www.bls.gov/k12/index.htm>

DECEMBER 2009

Connecting Curriculum: The Learning Standards for Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) include key ideas, performance indicators describing expectations for students, and sample tasks suggesting evidence of progress toward the standards. For information and integration ideas visit: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cte/cdlearn>

Integrated Learning: CDOS Standard 2 focuses on integrated learning and a sample task includes: *work in teams to complete a promotional campaign applying the principals of various disciplines (e.g., art, music, language art, and languages other than English) to sell products on a national level.*

STEM: is science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Visit this link for collections of STEM-themed teaching tools including lesson plans, links, games, and regional STEM events: <http://www.nycareerzone.org/cz/stem/index.jsp>

STEM Career Exploration: Have students research a STEM career via websites, interviews, or articles. As a culminating component have students share their findings through a presentation, chart/poster, or a paper. Ask students to connect necessary skills and related subject areas to the career they focused on.

JANUARY 2010

Informational Interview: Students arrange a time to visit with a working adult to ask questions about a particular career field - education required, skills needed, etc. Students will compile information and share with peers.

Practice Interview: To help students practice their interviewing skills invite business professionals to conduct an interview with a student and offer suggestions that will help the student succeed. Or, have students develop questions, interview each other, and offer constructive feedback.

Manufacturing Activity: Promote interpersonal skills through a teamwork activity. Challenge each group to design a systematic process that develops a finished product/good. Groups will report on their process highlighting relevant skills and example of finished product.

Workplace Simulation: A classroom opportunity to help students understand what it is like to work in a business without visiting the actual work site. Simulate the workplace via video, computer linkups, etc.

FEBRUARY 2010

Career Voyages: This website serves well as a lesson prompt or individual research tool. It features top occupations by state, videos, links, and a career compass. Find relevant, up-to-date information here: <http://www.careervoyages.gov>

It's Your Future! This lesson plan tackles major personal finance issues in young people's futures: career choice, home buying, and budgeting. The lesson plan will teach high school students how education and skills impact career choice. It will also help students learn the basics of budgeting for big expenses, like mortgage payments. Students will learn the about interest and loans, and how those personal finance tools can help them afford larger purchases like homes, while still managing their finances responsibly. <http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/lessons>

NYS Knowledge: What's going on within our state regarding labor laws and wages? What are the different rules and classifications?
<http://www.labor.state.ny.us/wagesandhours.shtm>

Pipeline Project BlogSpot: This blog, provided by the Southern Tier Teacher Center Network through a NYS Workforce grant, offers resources, suggestions and lesson plans designed to promote career studies in your classroom. It can be used independently or in conjunction with the 2009 - 2010 desk calendar. Periodically throughout the blog posts are images of individuals participating in various occupations. An attempt has been made to include lesser-known occupations among these. We hope that this, along with the calendar, serves as a valuable educational resource.
<http://pipelineproject.blogspot.com>

MARCH 2010

Arts Careers Exploration: Invite middle school and high school students to investigate various jobs in the fine arts field. Students should choose three jobs then compare and contrast various elements of each through narrative and chart.

<http://www.nycareerzone.org/framegrabber.jsp?http://www.myartscareer.org>

Being the Boss: Students describe the meaning of entrepreneurship and list three characteristics of entrepreneurship. They discuss the disadvantages and advantages of being an entrepreneur. They identify potential entrepreneurship opportunities in the local community. Find additional entrepreneurship lesson plans at www.lessonplanet.com

Integrated Learning/Fine Arts: CDOS Standard 2 focuses on integrated learning and a sample task includes: *attend a school or community theater production and then interview the director, cast, and stage crew, and prepare a presentation illustrating academic knowledge and technical skills applied in various theater careers.*

Interactive Exploration Activity: Learn about careers through video, audio, and offline activities. Teachers can use these resources as lesson prompts, or, students can individually investigate by visiting www.pbsteachers.org and searching “careers.”

APRIL 2010

Going Green: Have students collectively brainstorm ideas on how to encourage “green” behavior within the school building. Such topics could include recycling, composting, reusing, sharing, power sources, etc. Have students develop their specific idea further in the model of a business plan that could be potentially systematically implemented. CDOS Standard 3a focuses on universal foundation skills and a sample task includes: *work with students on a group project to improve one aspect of the school’s operation.*

Local Green: Have students investigate which businesses in the community are “green” or making strides to “go green.” How and in what capacities? What does this mean for business and the community? Students can share information and the class can chart the overall results.

Local Green Extension Activity: CDOS Standard 3a focuses on universal foundation skills, specifically number 3, personal qualities: *Volunteer to participate in a local charitable organization’s activities.* As a class or school club, have students partner with local “green” charitable/not-for-profit organizations to support their mission and experientially learn how these businesses run.

Student Activity: Whatever you teach, have students examine the syllabus to see how it matches with the CDOS standards.

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cte/cdlearn/documents/cdoslea.pdf>

MAY 2010

Career Planning Activity: CDOS Standard 1 focuses on career development and sample tasks includes: *Reevaluate long-range personal goals, including employment priorities such as salary, working conditions, and status. Explain, through example, how work can influence an individual's life style.*

Healthcare Careers: Students will identify several professions in the healthcare field, identify characteristics of effective healthcare providers, and consider if any of the occupations covered in class are appropriate paths for them. For full lesson plan and extension activity visit:

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/programs/healthcareers>

Job Application Activity: Provide students with sample job applications. Explain what information is needed, ways to answer questions, how to list skills, types of references and the importance of neatness. Allow students to debate the necessity of some information requested on applications and provide details of what information cannot be asked on applications. After everyone is done, divide students into pairs and have each student critique the other's application. This exercise will help students realize that school information is important to the job search process and that school personnel could be valuable references in the future.

Resume Writing: CDOS Standard 1 focuses on career development and a sample task includes: *develop resumes and letters of application... that could be used to gain entry into a career option.* There are many ELA lesson opportunities that correlate with resume writing. In addition to the crafting of a traditional resume, students could also construct resumes for fictional characters. Visit

http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=295 for more information.

JUNE 2010

Career Fair: A fair held on the school campus where representatives from varying career sectors are available to talk with students individually or in small groups. Simple, hands-on activities and/or examples of work from each participant would reinforce concepts and provide context.

Classroom Project: A group of students work together on a project with identified goals. The experience integrates knowledge and skills learning in the classroom with a need in a business or our local community.

Community Service Activity: Discuss potential service activities that would benefit your immediate community. Talk about what type of workers typically perform such duties and how such tasks make a difference to your area. In lieu of a traditional field trip, take your students into the community and work together to accomplish a developed and discussed activity.

Guest Speaker: Invite community members representing the public sector, business, industry, labor, etc. comes to the school to talk about his/her career field - what education, skills and experience are needed to be successful in a career.