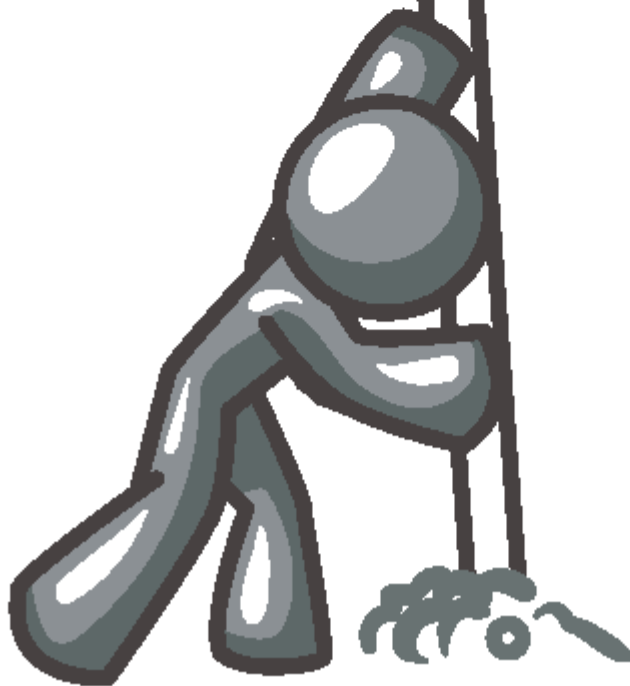


**Creating Career Paths  
For Our Children**

**Career Development Unit K-5**

**Des Moines Elementary  
Counseling Program**



## A Career Development Unit

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Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We are excited to introduce students to a new unit on career development. In this four week unit students will develop an awareness of personal abilities, skills, and interests and relate them to traditional and nontraditional career choices. In order for children to reach their dreams, they will learn how to set goals and plan steps to achieve them with the understanding that there is a relationship between academic achievement and career success. During this process students will realize the value of working cooperatively with others as a team member and use conflict management skills with their peers.

To engage students in our lessons, we plan to use a variety of methods to promote participation such as the use of fiction and non-fiction books, videos depicting students connecting how school work relates directly to obtaining a career in the future, technology to explore various career options, and cooperative learning activities to produce work that challenges us to think about our greatest aspirations.

Realizing that having dreams and hopes helps them plan for the years to come, we as educators and parents can help support their attainment of future career goals. We can serve as models for children by the very careers we have and help them face challenges with persistence and positive attitudes as they pursue their dreams. Please feel free to let me know if you have questions about this unit. I will be glad to provide any assistance needed.

Sincerely yours,

Counselor

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT COMPETENCIES

<b>Competencies</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>A1.1</b> Develop skills to locate, evaluate and interpret career information				X	X	X
<b>A1.2</b> Learn about the variety of traditional and nontraditional occupations	X	X	X		X	X
<b>A1.3</b> Develop an awareness of personal abilities, skills, interests and motivations	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>A1.4</b> Learn how to interact and work cooperatively with teams				X	X	
<b>A1.8</b> Pursue and develop competency in areas of interest				X	X	
<b>A1.9</b> Develop hobbies and vocational interests	X		X			
<b>A2.7</b> Develop a positive attitude toward work and learning	X	X			X	
<b>A2.8</b> Understand the importance of responsibility, dependability, punctuality, integrity and effort in the workplace					X	
<b>B1.2</b> Identify personal skills, interests and abilities and relate them to current career choice					X	
<b>B1.4</b> Know the various ways in which occupations can be classified			X	X	X	X
<b>C1.2</b> Explain how work can help achieve personal success and satisfaction		X				
<b>C1.3</b> Identify personal preferences and interests which influence career choice and success			X	X		X
<b>C1.6</b> Understand the importance of equity and access in career choice		X				X
<b>C1.7</b> Understand that work is an important and satisfying means of personal expression					X	

## Career Unit Outline

### Kindergarten

Lesson 1 – The Little Engine that Could  
Lesson 2 – Recognizing Personal Abilities and Talents  
Lesson 3 – Different Places, Tools and Jobs  
Lesson 4 – When I Grow Up

### Vocabulary

effort  
talent  
job, talent, tool  
job, talent

### Grade 1

Lesson 1 – You Can Do It!  
Lesson 2 – Recognizing Personal Dreams  
Lesson 3 – Careers A – Z  
Lesson 4 – What Will I Be?

### Vocabulary

determination, fable  
career, dream, talent  
job, career  
clue, career, job

### Grade 2

Lesson 1 – Exploring Personal Interests  
Lesson 2 – Intro to Career Paths  
Lesson 3 – Name that Career Path  
Lesson 4 – Career Bingo

### Vocabulary

favorite, school subjects  
path, career paths, interests  
career paths  
career paths

### Grade 3

Lesson 1 – What Color is Your Ribbon?  
Lesson 2 – What's a Career Path?

Lesson 3 – Community Heroes  
Lesson 4 – Who am I?

### Vocabulary

talent, accomplishment  
career paths, business path,  
creative path, nature path,  
building and technology path,  
helping path, health path  
career, hero  
roles

### Grade 4

Lesson 1 – Follow Your Dreams  
Lesson 2 – Path to Career Success  
Lesson 3 – What Would I Be Good At? (Part 1)  
Lesson 4 – What Would I Be Good At? (Part 2)  
Optional Lesson – Name that Career

### Vocabulary

persevere, goal, dream  
school subjects, skill, career path  
personality types  
personality types

### Grade 5

Lesson 1 – McJobs  
Lesson 2 – Where do I Fit?

### Vocabulary

career paths  
career paths, interest survey