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|  | **First Steps: Understanding the World of Work through Career Technical Education** is a standard-based, CTE focused, career development curriculum for students in grades 7-8. The First Steps logo indicates instructional resources are aligned to the [First Steps Standards](https://cte.idaho.gov/Resource_Catalog/Program_Areas/Middle_School/TheIdahoMiddleSchoolCTEInitiative.pdf) and IDCTE approved! |

**First Steps Standard(s):** Domain 1: Self-Evaluation (Who am I?) 2. Identify Interests (What do I enjoy doing?) A. Use multiple methods to identify personal interests. B. Document a reflection of the results.

**Career Activity Curriculum Topic:** What is Important to Me?

**Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to (SWBAT):**

1. Students will examine a list of values and sort them according to the importance level: Most important, somewhat important, least important.
2. Students will determine the values that are important to them based on their ideal job.

**Activity Summary:** In this lesson, students will explore different types of values and will determine which ones are the most important to them. They will use this knowledge to reflect on what kinds of careers or goals would best support the things they value most.

**Estimated Time:** One 45-60-minute class period

**Learning Plan Activity:** 7th or 8th Grade

**Materials Needed:**

* Teacher Materials: Computer/projector, slide deck, handout (Assignment Sheet (1 per student)), scissors, glue/tape
* Student Materials: Pen/pencil, handout, scissors, glue/tape

**Academic Vocabulary:**

* **Moral Values:** What is right or wrong; thoughts or codes by which to live
* **Aesthetic Values:** Values that reflect your feelings about what has beauty in nature and life. They reveal appreciation for the way things look, sound, feel, taste, and smell.
* **Material Values**: Material values reflect the possessions we own; the things on which we spend our money.
* **Intrinsic Values**: Intrinsic values are things or ideas that have value to us in their own right; the end and not the means
* **Extrinsic Values:** Some values are important because they help us gain other values or desired results.
* **Universal Values:** Universal values are values on which all or most people agree, such as equality, justice, worldwide brotherhood, respect of self, and others.
* **Beliefs:** something that is accepted, considered to be true, or held as an opinion

([Utah Education Network](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cklaven%5CDownloads%5CVocabulary_Worksheet_and_Key%20%281%29.pdf)) ([Merriam-Webster](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/belief))

**Introduction:** Values are important because they guide our beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors. If you

continuously compromise your values in your decision-making, the impact on you can be quite negative.

You need to be able to recognize, understand, and stay true to your values. Understanding your values will

also help you to choose a career path that supports and aligns with your values.

**Learning Activities/Procedures:** Use slide deck

1. Go through the slide deck on values.
2. Have students take brief notes on the definitions for the different values as you go through them. Encourage them to make their own examples for each category.
3. Use a sticky note “parking lot,” Pear Deck, Google Forms, or another platform to have students answer/brainstorm about how understanding their own values should be considered in their career/job path.
4. Explain the values activity (pass out glue, tape, scissors, etc.).
5. Have students read the 20 statements from the handout and think about how important each particular quality would be in their ideal job.
6. Students will then sort the statements into the three categories: Most Important, Somewhat Important, & Least Important.
7. Discuss: Provide opportunity to discuss which statements were the “Most Important” and “Least Important” for your students/class. Encourage them to discuss not only the sorting, but also the reasoning behind it.
8. Reflection: Students will write a reflection about the values that are most important to them and how that would be reflected in the workplace.

**Accommodations/Adaptations/Extensions**

**Accommodation:** Provide fill-in definitions (or already completed ones), simplify lists of statements for values activity.

**Adaptation: Virtual:** Create matching activity/game online for values activity, have students complete reflection/parking lot in an online forum, chat or discussion board.

**Extension:** Take this [Values Quiz](https://personalvalu.es/) and connect it to your prior assessment of your own values.

**Evaluation:** Students will complete and submit the assignment sheet and values activity.

**Closing:** Understanding values, and the role that they play in our lives (and others’) can be a key to success. Our values have a role in the decisions we make, actions we take, and things we are passionate about. Using your own values to guide your future career choices and understanding relationships with others can help you find a path that will serve you well.

**Resources/References:**

* [Work Values Matcher Assessment](https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Careers/work-values-matcher-assessment.aspx)

* [Live Binders](https://www.livebinders.com/media/get/MTc5NDc4MTU%3D)