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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 3: Future Planning (How do I get there?) 3. Create a Career Pathway Plan (How do I move forward?) A. Develop or update the Career Pathway Plan (Four-Year-Plan) aligned with personal, educational, and career goals. B. Apply Idaho Career Pathway Plan to selection of high school courses and Pathway

**Career Activity Curriculum Topic:** Career Pathway Plan: What Is It?

**Learning Outcomes:** Student Will Be Able To (SWBAT):

1. Use collected background knowledge to create a Career Pathway Plan
2. Select appropriate High School courses aligned with personal career interests

**Activity Summary:** Idaho mandates the development of a parent approved Career Pathway Plan (Four Year Plan) by eighth grade. This lesson will introduce the Career Pathway Plan and will help students begin to fill in State and district graduation minimum requirements. This lesson is most meaningful and purposeful when it coincides with registration for the following school year.

**Estimated Time:** Two45-60-minute class periods

**Suggested Grade Level:** 8th Grade

**Materials Needed:**

* Teacher Materials: Computer/projector, slide deck, handouts (Career Pathway Plan (hard copy if desired, 1 per student or for those who need one)), other materials regarding course offerings, district requirements, etc.
* Student Materials: Pen/pencil, handout (Career Pathway Plan (hard copy if needed/provided)), access to materials from prior units/lessons/reflections, access to state/district requirements and high school course offerings, device with web access (1 per student)

**Academic Vocabulary:**

* **Career Pathway Plan:** A plan developed by students – typically in collaboration with teachers, counselors, and parents…to help them achieve short and long-term learning goals…at the middle and high school levels…Bring greater coherence focus and purpose to the decisions students make about their education” [(Personal Learning Plan (PLP)](https://sites.google.com/a/nhusd.k12.ca.us/dis/decoto-school-general-informat-ion-1/personalized-learning-plan-plp)
* **Graduation Requirements** - minimum requirements a high school student must meet in order to be eligible to receive a high school diploma [(State Department of Education)](https://www.sde.idaho.gov/topics/hs-grad-req/)
* **Course Offerings** - a list of courses that a school offers
* **Course Descriptions** - a brief description of the course (prerequisite courses and co-requisites may also be listed)
* **Prerequisite** - a course that must be taken before enrollment in another specified (often more advanced) course can occur
* **Corequisite** - course that must be taken at the same time as another specified course

**Introduction:** In this lesson, you will use your prior knowledge and reflections for this unit to build your Career Pathway Plan. This plan is meant to give you a roadmap for the next four years that best supports your future pathway and career goals. It helps to ensure that you meet all graduation requirements. You will learn how to organize and plan your classes accordingly and set yourself up for success.

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

1. Go through the slide deck on the “Idaho Career Pathway Plan.”
2. Review and explain the definitions to students – give time for questions and uncertainty as you explain this process.
3. Provide access to previous work and a few minutes for students to review it and reflect on their experience completing it.
4. Think-Pair-Share Discussion (3-5 minutes per slide) – Thinking back over the term and what you have learned about yourself, what type of career/s interests you most right now and why?

* THINK: Thinking back over the term, what did you learn about yourself? What type of career(s) interest you the most right now and why? What have you done to prepare yourself to achieve that goal? What do you need to do?
* PAIR: Share your responses with your shoulder partner. Be sure each of you has a turn to share. What similarities and differences did you have from each other?
* SHARE: Group discussion. Share out what your partner learned about themselves. Share the similarities and differences you found.

1. Introduce the Career Pathway Plan: What is a Career Pathway Plan?

* Show video at: [Next Steps - Your Future](https://careerinfo.nextsteps.idaho.gov/learning-plan/8th-grade/?_ga=2.81341904.698650813.1598035214-927338121.1545330085)
* Invite school counselor and/or College and Career Advisor to expand on and discuss the plan template
* Provide a copy/digital copy of the Career Pathway Plan template to students.

**\*\*Note:** If your school/district has a template that is already in place, use that one for your students. The template provided is an easy-to-use format, but should be adjusted for specific districts and schools.

**\*\*Note:** Teacher/counselor can add-in required courses for the school/district if desired.

1. What is required for high school graduation?

* State Requirements: [Idaho](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/idaho-high-school-graduation-requirements)
* School District Requirements
* Explain the state (or district, if different) graduation requirements

**Accommodations/Adaptations/Extensions:**

**Accommodation:** Provide a pre-filled template with only spaces for electives to fill-in; allow for work with a productive partner, offer counselor or advisor support, provide hard copies for course catalogs

**Adaptation:** Virtual: student can complete the lesson online and submit the Career Pathway Plan to the platform that is necessary in their district (or the Next Steps Idaho website). They should participate in a live session or a Q &A to receive support for this planning. Provide a catalog of virtual classes available for them to view and plan around.

**Extension:** Allow students who finish early the opportunity to help others figure out their own schedules and plans. This can help students to see the benefit of future planning and the power in helping others do the same; alternatively, they could create a “future-goals” list or project that includes the four-year plan and other things they have in mind for the future.

**Evaluation:** Students will complete and sign the Career Pathway Plan as the final assessment.

**Closing:** The purpose of this plan is to help keep you focused on your goals, and keep you organized in how to achieve them. As your interests change--and it’s perfectly acceptable to let them change--update your Career Pathway Plan. You can always ask or get help from teachers, counselors, advisors, parents, or admin to help you with your plan, whether it needs to be changed, reviewed, or organized. We are here to help!

**Resources/References:**

* “Idaho High School Graduation Requirements.” *Next Steps Idaho*, https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/idaho-high-school-graduation-requirements.
* <https://careerinfo.nextsteps.idaho.gov/learning-plan/8th-grade/?_ga=2.81341904.698650813.1598035214-927338121.1545330085>

* <https://careerinfo.nextsteps.idaho.gov/learning-plan/8th-grade/?_ga=2.81341904.698650813.1598035214-927338121.1545330085&step=7>
* “Personal Learning Plan Definition.” *The Glossary of Education Reform*, 3 Mar. 2014, https://www.edglossary.org/personal-learning-plan/.