



Hidden Careers

EPISODE #212

ACTIVITIES & LESSONS

LESSON LEVEL

Grades 6-9

KEY TOPICS

- Entrepreneurship
- Careers
- Personal skills

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Become aware of ‘behind the scenes’ careers.
2. Identify personal career interests.
3. Learn financial terms.

EPISODE SYNOPSIS

You don’t have to be perfect at your passion to build a career in it. If you have a love for baseball but don’t have the skills of a super athlete, there are still many different roles to play both on and off the field. Similarly, the music business, entertainment industry, art world, aerospace industry, and many more have careers to consider ‘behind the scenes.’

NATIONAL STANDARDS CORRELATIONS

Aligned to *National Financial Literacy Standards* from the **JumpStart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy.**

Financial Responsibility and Decision Making

Standard 1: Take responsibility for personal financial decisions.

Standard 4: Make financial decisions by systematically considering alternatives and consequences.

Income and Careers

Standard 1: Explore career options.

Standard 2: Identify sources of personal income.

Aligned to *Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics* from the **Council for Economic Education.**

Standard 2: Decision Making

Standard 13: Income

Standard 14: Entrepreneurship

Aligned to **Common Core State Standards Initiative’s** standards for *Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects.*

Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Standard 4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

Standard 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

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LESSON PREP & SCREENING

Getting Started

Familiarize yourself with the episode ahead of time. It will serve as a springboard for student learning, discussions, vocabulary exploration, and hands-on activities. Determine what equipment is required to show the episode in your classroom and request it if needed. Choose an activity (each one takes between 45-60 minutes), and gather supplies. Students will need a pen or pencil and copies of the activity worksheets. Have fun!

Screening

Introduce the series and the episode. Explain that Biz Kid\$ is a public television series that teaches kids about money and business. Mention that the bizkids.com website has lots of video clips, games, a blog, and other resources to help kids start businesses and learn about money. Prior to playing the episode, lead your students in a discussion with the preview questions on this page.

About the Episode

You don't have to be perfect at your passion to build a career in it. If you have a love for baseball but don't have the skills of a super athlete, there are still many different roles to play both on and off the field. Similarly, the music business, entertainment industry, art world, aerospace industry, and many more have careers to consider 'behind the scenes.'

Episode Preview Questions

Before you show this Biz Kid\$ episode, lead your students in a brief discussion of the following questions:

- Do you feel passion for a subject like math, a hobby, a sport, or an activity?
- What do you say when people ask you what career you'd like to pursue?
- Have you ever worked with someone to learn a specific skill?

Next Steps

Show this episode. After the episode, read the Summary and Conclusion to the class.

Summary and Conclusion

There are many different opportunities within a field of interest to find your career passion. Glamorous careers in show business, fashion, space travel, professional sports, and more depend on many jobs done 'behind the scenes' that support those stars. Find your passion and find or create your career.

Family Connection

Distribute a copy of the Family Activity Sheet to each student to share what they've learned with their families.



FAMILY ACTIVITY SHEET

Episode Synopsis

You don't have to be perfect at your passion to build a career in it. If you have a love for baseball but don't have the skills of a super athlete, there are still many different roles to play both on and off the field. Similarly, the music business, entertainment industry, art world, aerospace industry, and many more have careers to consider 'behind the scenes.'

Activity Suggestions

It is never too early to support your child's interests and talents. Encourage your child to explore their interests and the career options that are available in those fields.

One very accurate career test is available online that even children can take. It uses the preference for certain colors to match people with careers that will be of interest. There is a news article here describing the test, how and why it was designed, and the level of accuracy (http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/money/companies/management/2010-02-08-ceocolors08_st_n.htm). Please note, there is **no charge or fee** for taking the test, and some of the results will give you helpful information, however, the website will ask you if you want to pay for a 'full report' - you **do not** have to pay for anything if you don't want to (<http://www.careerpath.com/career-tests/color-test/>).



Activity #1:

BIZ TERM\$

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Biz Term\$

- Apprentice
- Career
- Intern
- Internship
- Job listings
- Mentor
- Network
- Occupation
- Trade organization
- Volunteer

Directions

With students, read aloud the Biz Term\$ and each question. Call on volunteers for answers, and have them explain why they chose the term they believe to be correct.

Biz Term\$ Episode Review

1. A wise and trusted counselor is a _____.
2. A person working with another in order to learn a trade is an _____.
3. A person who performs a service willingly and for free is a _____.
4. Current information regarding available jobs is found in _____.
5. A period of time during which a beginner acquires experience in an occupation is an _____.
6. _____ and _____ are synonyms, they mean the same thing.
7. It is a good business practice to _____ with people who can be helpful to you professionally.



CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Language Arts

- Have students construct sentences, write a paragraph, or create a story, skit, or dialog using Biz Term\$.
- Have students create a class Dictionary of Financial Terms using Biz Term\$.
- Have students start their own Journal of Personal Financial Education and continue to add to it.

History/Social Studies

- Apprenticeships used to be common, but have been largely replaced in the U.S. by internships for academic credit or low wages. Have students research the similarities and differences between internships, apprenticeships, and volunteering to gain work experience.

Mathematics

- The concept of ‘six degrees of separation’ is important when you are networking to get a foot in the door of your chosen career field. The idea is that you know someone (person 1), who knows someone else (person 2), who knows someone (person 3), who knows another person (person 4), who knows someone (person 5), who knows the person you want to meet (person 6). Think of someone you admire in your chosen career field, and try to figure out how you can contact them through your own friends and acquaintances. When you do reach them, ask them for advice on getting started in that career.

Economics

- In the United States, the Bureau of Labor Statistics offers a publication and website called the Occupational Outlook Handbook. Here, students can research the careers they’re interested in, including information on how to break into the industry and starting pay rates. Have students select two careers each and compare and contrast those two choices (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>).

Optional Vocabulary Extensions

Make Art!

Ask students to create personal illustrated glossaries using sketches or cartoons to visually represent the meaning of each Biz Term.

Make It Personal!

Provide students with dictionaries and ask students to re-write formal definitions for each Biz Term in their own words to demonstrate comprehension.



Activity #2:

MY CAREER PERSONALITY

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Directions

Different personalities may prefer different types of careers. Use the quiz below to discover more about yourself.

Circle the words in the table below that best describe you. Use a dictionary to look up any words that are unfamiliar or unclear.

Enterprising (E)	Social (S)	Conventional (C)
Ambitious Competitive Persuasive Energetic Adventurous Sociable	Helpful Cooperative Supportive Nurturing Informative Service-minded	Detail oriented Organized Careful Conscientious Structured Likes numbers or machines
Artistic (A)	Investigative (I)	Realistic (R)
Creative Original Independent Impulsive Expressive Artistic	Puzzle or problem solver Asks questions Analytical Logical Intellectual Scientific	Hands-on Practical Focused Physical Determined Mechanical

1. Which category (E, S, C, A, I, R) had the most words that are a good match for you? The second most?

(next page)



2. Select two careers to compare, one from your top category and one from your second category.

Enterprising (E)	Social (S)	Conventional (C)
Lawyer Salesperson School principal Senator Stock broker Entrepreneur	Coach Counselor Dental hygienist Nurse Physical therapist Teacher	Accountant Bank teller Librarian Receptionist Sports statistician Mortgage broker
Artistic (A)	Investigative (I)	Realistic (R)
Author Clothes designer Dancer Disc jockey Musician Painter	Chemist Historian Meteorologist Pharmacist Surgeon Detective	Athlete Chef Farmer Firefighter Mechanic Soldier

3. Fill in the table below to compare these two careers.

Career	1.	2.
Education Does it require a college degree?		
Pay What is the starting salary?		
Competition Does this career have lots of jobs, or very few jobs right now in my city?		
Appeal On a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the least and 5 the most, how much does this career appeal to me?		

Have students discuss these ideas and share their answers with the class.



Activity #3:

FIND YOUR CAREER

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Directions

Some people know from a very young age what they want to do, while others take many years to discover that perfect fit. One part of finding your career is knowing yourself and what you like. Another part is knowing what is out there. The third piece of the puzzle is figuring out how to get from where you are right now into the career you want.

Part 1 - Who Are You?

1. Are you a person who has 'always' known what you want to do? If you are, what is your career choice?

2. Name one thing that you are really good at. Now think about how that might become a career.

Part 2 - What's Out There?

3. This episode was about 'hidden careers' - jobs that are related to big careers we are familiar with. Name one 'hidden career' from the episode that you had not heard of before.

4. To find 'hidden careers' you need to learn more about your career field. Think of one person you know who might be able to give you more information about a career field you're interested in. Who is it? Next time you see them, ask them about hidden jobs in their industry.

Part 3 - How Do I Get There?

5. Does the job you are interested in require a college degree? Special training? How can you find out?

Have students discuss these ideas and share their answers with the class.



BIZ TERMS DEFINITIONS

- *Apprentice:* A person who works for another in order to learn a trade.
- *Career:* Work that provides money but also matches a worker's interests, values, and abilities.
- *Intern:* A beginner who is working for academic credit or a low wage in order to learn a trade or career.
- *Internship:* The period during which a beginner acquires experience in an occupation.
- *Job listings:* Current openings for positions of work in businesses and organizations.
- *Mentor:* A person who supports, encourages, and educates another person.
- *Network:* To meet and keep in touch with people who can be helpful professionally, especially in finding employment.
- *Occupation:* A person's main work or business, especially for earning a living.
- *Trade organization:* Voluntary association of businesses for the purpose of working together within that industry.
- *Volunteer:* A person who donates their time.



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