

A Closer Look at Careers

EPISODE #119



LESSON LEVEL

Grades 4-6

KEY TOPICS

- Entrepreneurship
- Careers
- Individual interests and talents

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Identify personal interests that relate to careers.
2. Know where to locate career information.
3. Understand the importance of planning for your career.
4. Learn financial terms.

EPISODE SYNOPSIS

When is a job more than a job? The Biz Kid\$ look at what it takes to find your true calling. You'll learn ways to start exploring careers. The kids talk to several celebrities and find out how they got their start and how they keep achieving their dreams.

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.

Planning and Money Management

Standard 6: Develop a personal financial plan.

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

Standard 2: Decision Making

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

When is a job more than a job? The Biz Kid\$ look at what it takes to find your true calling. You'll learn ways to start exploring careers. The kids talk to several celebrities and find out how they got their start and how they keep achieving their dreams.

Episode Preview Questions

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

- What job would you like to have?
- How do you decide on a job or career?
- What can help you determine a career choice?

Next Steps

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

Summary and Conclusion

When people are considering what type of career they would like, they think about what they enjoy and what is important and meaningful to them. There is a difference between a job and a career. Interests and values may change over time. You still have lots of time before you choose a career path. However, it is never too early to think about the type of career that would make you happy.

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

When is a job more than a job? The Biz Kid\$ look at what it takes to find your true calling. You'll learn ways to start exploring careers. The kids talk to several celebrities and find out how they got their start and how they keep achieving their dreams.

Activity Suggestions

When you were a child, what career did you dream of having? Your child may be interested in hearing about your childhood dreams and whether or not you followed them. Take some time to discuss the following questions with your child.

1. How did you end up in your current career?
2. What preparation was required for your current career?
3. Did anyone help you get started on your career path?

There are many ways to learn about potential careers. Here are a few opportunities to consider in helping your child learn more about career paths:

1. **Job Shadowing.** This is where your child spends some time in the workplace with a person who has the career that they are interested in. Help your child prepare for this opportunity by making a list of questions, together, that your child could ask someone about the job they are interested in.
2. **Volunteering.** By becoming a volunteer, your child can learn more about the workplace and the career that they are interested in. They may actually get to perform some of the work that is part of the career that interests them.
3. **Internship.** In an internship, a student performs work and gets high school or college credit for the work that they are doing. Some internships are paid and some are unpaid, but all have specific requirements for learning on the job. You will be paired with a coach who will answer questions and help you with basic work skills for that occupation.
4. **Mentoring.** Find an expert in your career field who will coach you along the way on your career path. This would be someone you can ask for advice or assistance when you have questions.



Activity #1:

BIZ TERM\$

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Biz Term\$

- Career
- Internship
- Interview
- Job
- Job shadowing
- Mentor
- Network
- Resume
- Training
- Work environment

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 written summary of your job skills and experience is a _____.
2. You have an _____ when you meet with a company representative and answer questions about yourself.
3. If you follow a nurse during his or her job workday, you are _____.
4. When someone teaches you how to answer business phones you are receiving _____.
5. Being happy and healthy while you do your job means you probably have a good _____.
6. A _____ allows you to earn money and matches your interests, values, and abilities.
7. To become a medical doctor part of the training is an _____.



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

- As the world changes, careers change too. Ask students to name at least one career that is less popular today as a result of modern technology. Now ask students to think about the future. What is one career of the future that is very new to our society?

Mathematics

- You are going to compare two career paths. For Career A, you need to complete 6 years of college which will cost \$36,000, and your starting salary when you graduate will be \$40,000 per year. For Career B, you need to complete 2 years of college which will cost \$12,000 and your starting salary when you graduate will be \$20,000 per year. How many years does it take to repay your college cost for each career? How many years does it take for Career A to pay more than Career B?

Economics

- In each country around the world, there is an average salary or wage per person. What is the average salary in the United States? What is the minimum wage in the United States? Now compare these to the average salary and minimum wage in other countries such as Mexico and Canada. Don't forget to convert Canadian dollars or Mexican pesos to US Dollars before you compare. Why are there differences?

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 INTERESTS

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Directions

A career is more than just a job, it is something that you enjoy doing and that you are good at. Answer the questions below to help you focus on careers you might enjoy.

1. Do you prefer working outdoors? _____

If so, you may want to consider careers like lifeguard, gardener, park ranger, or other outdoor careers.

2. Are you good at speaking to people, do you like talking on the phone? _____

If so, you may want to look at marketing, public relations, teaching, and other communication careers.

3. Do you like working with animals? _____

If so, you may want to explore careers in veterinary offices, zoos, or other careers working with animals.

4. Are you an athlete or entertainer? _____

If yes, you may wish to consider a sports related career, music, acting, or other performance careers.

5. Do you speak multiple languages? _____

If yes, you may wish to consider a job as a translator, a localization expert, or other language careers.

6. Can you think of another question that might help you narrow down your career search?

7. What careers would fit well with the question you wrote above?

8. Entrepreneurs start their own business. Would you be a good entrepreneur? Why or why not? _____

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



Activity #3:

MY PERSONALITY

WORKSHEET FOR STUDENTS

Directions

You bring your personality to work with you, so many companies want to know more about your personality before they hire you. These four questions are similar to questions asked in a popular personality test called the MBTI. The MBTI is much more specific, and you may have the opportunity to take that test as part of a job application or career counseling in the future. If you can't decide between the two choices, write 'both.'

1. One of the biggest personality type questions that people ask is whether you are an introvert or an extravert. An introvert may prefer some quiet time to themselves, while an extravert may be talkative and would prefer to be surrounded by other people. Are you an introvert (I) or an extravert (E)? _____.
2. When you need to investigate a situation or gather information, do you need to touch/see/hear/smell/taste all the facts (sensing = S), or do you use your gut instinct (intuition = N)? _____.
3. Another big personality question is about how you make a decision. Do you use your feelings when you make a choice (feeling=F), or do you think about it logically without emotion (thinking=T)? _____.
4. Also, when making that decision, do you prefer to have a definite answer (judgment=J) or to keep the decision open to making changes (perception=P)? _____.

This four letter combination helps describe your personality type. If you answered 'both' to any of these, explore both personality types to see which one sounds more like you. There are library books and websites that discuss good careers for each MBTI type. One good series of books to read is "Portraits of the 16 Personality Types." The following are some words that have been associated with each type as listed below:

ISFJ = Protector	INFJ = Counselor	ESFJ = Provider	ENFJ = Teacher
ISFP = Artist	INFP = Healer	ESFP = Performer	ENFP = Champion
ISTJ = Inspector	INTJ = Mastermind	ESTJ = Guardian	ENTJ = Executive
ISTP = Crafter	INTP = Architect	ESTP = Promoter	ENTP = Inventor

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



BIZ TERMS DEFINITIONS

- *Career*: Work that provides money but also matches a worker's interests, values, and abilities.
- *Internship*: The period during which a beginner acquires experience in an occupation.
- *Interview*: A meeting between a company representative and a job applicant.
- *Job*: Work done with the goal of earning money.
- *Job shadowing*: Following a person as they do their work to learn about their job.
- *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.
- *Resume*: A written summary of your skills, experience, and education that is used when you apply for a job.
- *Training*: Teaching someone how to perform a task.
- *Work environment*: The conditions in which a person works, including physical, mental, and emotional surroundings.



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