

READY-TO-USE ACTIVITIES: MIDDLE SCHOOL



The Value of Education

Time: One to two match meetings

College pays off! With each year of college completed, average annual pay increases by about 10%. Print out the “Value of Education” worksheet, and talk with your mentee about the monthly, annual and working life incomes based on education level. Work with your mentee to complete the cost of living worksheet and think about how that relates to income level. To cover the monthly expenses for how they want to live as an adult, what level of education would they need?



Job Match Worksheet

Time: Match meeting

Print the “Job Match Worksheet” and look through the different jobs on the left hand side and the level of education on the right hand side. Talk about the different careers, especially those they are not familiar with. Then, match each job on the left with the minimum amount of education needed on the right. See the example for Medical Doctor.



College Mascot Quiz

Time: Match meeting

Print out the “College Mascot Quiz” activity, and complete with your mentee by matching the college mascot with the school using the word bank at the bottom. Looking at the map, find any in your mentee’s area.



Online College Scavenger Hunt

Time: Match meeting

Discover facts about colleges in Michigan! If you have access to a computer, work with your mentee to complete the “Online Scavenger Hunt” with information about colleges in Michigan.



Looking Into Your Crystal Ball

Time: Match meeting

Print out the “Looking Into Your Crystal Ball” activity and ask your mentee to imagine it is now 10 years after their high school graduation. How would they describe their lives? Lead them through the activity and have them answer each question. Talk with them about the job chosen in question 2 and the cost of the lifestyle chosen; do they need a college degree?



College Life Word Search

Time: Match meeting

Print out the “College Life Word Search” and work with your mentee to find all of the college related words! Talk with your mentee about the words they were unfamiliar with in the list.



Michigan Community College Match Up

Time: Match meeting

Community college is one pathway to education beyond high school. Community colleges offer many career-focused programs and associates degrees, and can often be less expensive than a 4-year school. Print out the “Michigan Community College Match Up” activity, and complete with your mentee by matching the 28 community colleges in Michigan with their locations on the map. Are there any in your mentee’s area?



Your Dream Career

Time: Match meeting

Print out the “Your Dream Career” activity and talk to your mentee about their dream job. If they could have any job in the world, what would it be? If they are unsure, have them talk about the activities or classes they enjoy and why and fill in their answers. Help them think about how those interests could become a career and list possible careers at the bottom of the worksheet.



Career Crossword Puzzle

Time: Match meetings

Print out the “Career Crossword Puzzle” activity and work with your mentee to figure out the career that matches each description, and have them write the answers in the crossword puzzle.



Possible Career Paths

Time: One to two match meetings

For a more in depth self-inventory, check out the “Possible Career Paths” activity. The purpose of this self-inventory is to encourage your mentee to think about and assess themselves in ways that will help them choose, or not choose, certain careers. Use the “Career Pathways” document to explore different paths.

Additional activities available to download for free at www.mentormichigan.org