

Matching Interests to Careers

This lesson is designed to help students understand the link between their interests, favorite school subjects, and future careers.

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

1. Explore the connection between interests and careers
2. Connect their favorite school subjects to related careers
3. Learn how to evaluate careers based on their core interests

ACTIVITIES

PART 1

Content Knowledge

This lesson will help students connect their interests to future careers through two interactive games found within MEFA Pathway. In the first activity, students will play *Favorite Subjects*, which will allow them to explore the connection between their favorite subject in school, potential high school courses, and related careers. The second interactive game is *Would You Rather*, where students are presented with two on-the-job scenarios. Students select the scenario they prefer to reveal the related career. Students can click to learn more about each career and save them to their *My Careers List*.

Begin by introducing the activities. Explain to students that they will explore how their interests are connected to careers. Ask students:

- Do you have any subjects in school that you really enjoy? Allow several students to share their favorite subject(s).
- Do you know what a career category is?

Ask students to write a list of their favorite subjects. Instruct students to put the list aside as they will need it for the activity.

Explain to students that they will play two games in MEFA Pathway to explore the connection between their favorite subjects and future careers. They will also get to explore different on-the-job scenarios to learn more about the career categories that align with their interests. Remind students that although these are games, they are also great ways to explore the connection between their interests and future careers.

Grade Level: 6

MEFA PATHWAY SECTIONS WITHIN THIS LESSON:

- Favorite Subjects
- Would You Rather
- My Journal

DOMAIN:

- College & Career Exploration
- Social Emotional Learning

TIME:

- 75 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Internet connection to work with the MEFA Pathway website

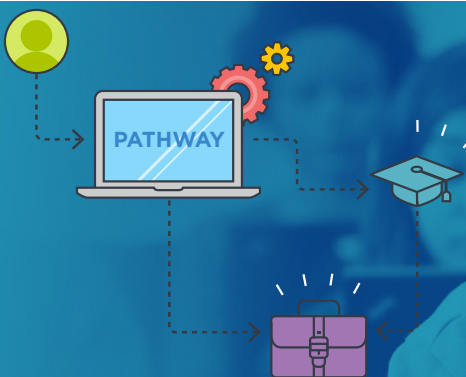
FUTURE READY SKILLS:

- Self-Knowledge
- Evaluation
- Reflection

VOCABULARY:

- Interests
- Favorite Subjects
- Career Category

Email any questions to:
info@mefapathway.org



LESSON PLAN

PART 2

Applying Information

Instruct students to log in to MEFA Pathway. Once there, they should click on *Careers Discovery Zone* under the *Discover Careers* tab. Then have students click on the *Favorite Subjects* activity. Once the activity launches, demonstrate to students that they should click any subject of their choice. High school courses related to the subject will populate along with related careers. Encourage students to explore the high school courses and learn more about the related careers by clicking on them. If students find a career of interest, they should save it to their *My Career List* by clicking the green *SAVE TO MY LIST* button. Students should repeat this activity for all subjects on their favorites list from part 1.

After completing the *Favorite Subjects* activity, instruct students to navigate to the *Would You Rather* activity located on the *Careers Discovery Zone* tab in the *Discover Careers* section. Instruct students to read each scenario presented and select the one they would rather do by clicking *YES* under that scenario. Encourage students to click *LEARN MORE* about each career. If they find a career of interest, they should save it to their *My Career List* by clicking the green *SAVE TO MY LIST* button. As students complete the activity, they should make note of the career categories that appear most often.

PART 3

Evaluating Information

Instruct students to navigate to their *My Careers List* by clicking on *Discover Careers* then *My Careers List*. Have students review the newly added careers on their list. Ask students to reflect on the career categories that appeared most frequently during the *Would You Rather* activity. Do most of the careers on their list align with those career categories?

PART 4

Critical Thinking/Creative Application

Have students log in to MEFA Pathway and create an entry in their *My Journal* by clicking on the pen icon in the lower right corner reflecting on the *Favorite Subjects* and *Would You Rather* activities. The entry should answer the following questions:

1. What did you learn about your interests and the connection to future careers?
2. Were you surprised by any of the careers related to your favorite subjects?
3. Did most of the careers added to your *My Careers List* align with the career category that appeared most often in the *Would You Rather* activity?

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Grading Rubric

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CATEGORY	EXCELLENT 4	GOOD 3	SATISFACTORY 2	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT 1
Sequencing of Information	The information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Most information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Some information is logically sequenced.	There is no clear plan for the organization of information.
Effectiveness	The entry includes all material needed to give a good understanding of the topic.	The entry is lacking one or two key elements.	The entry is missing more than two key elements.	The entry is lacking several key elements and has inaccuracies.
Font Choice & Formatting	Font formats (size, bold, italic) have been carefully planned to enhance readability and content.	Font formats have been carefully planned to enhance readability.	Font formats have been carefully planned to complement the content. It may be a little hard to read.	Font formatting makes it very difficult to read the material.
Conventions. Student uses proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	The entry has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	The entry has 1- 2 misspellings, but no grammatical errors.	The entry has 1- 2 grammatical errors but no misspellings.	The entry has more than 2 grammatical and/or spelling errors.