

Lesson Plan: Career Development: Acting It Out

Goal	A game (similar to charades and telephone) intended to encourage youth participants to begin thinking about different types of work/careers. The game involves movement, sharing ideas, and an informal presentation style.
Level	Grades 7–9
Duration	Approximately 15–20 minutes (<i>warm-up activity</i>)
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Markers • Paper • Printed list of rules • List of jobs (for each team to act out) • Possible prize (e.g., winners mentioned on PA announcement; small food item for each participant, bragging rights)
Activities/Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask the youth participants to split themselves into two groups of equal numbers. (Give the teams one minute to decide how to organize their line.) 2. Tell the teams they will be playing a game that requires them to act and communicate creatively. Explain the following rules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each team of students will work separately and stand in their own line. • The teacher will tell the student at the end of each team's line a type of job to act out (e.g., architect, construction worker, nurse, lawyer, doctor, janitor, Chief, Council member, cook). • On each team, the student told the job will try to get the person in front of them to guess the job by acting it out without using any words! (similar to charades) • Once the student in front of them thinks they know the job, this second student will also act out what they think the job is so that the next student can guess (similar to the telephone game). • Repeat up the line until the final student thinks they know the job. When done, the final student will write the job on a piece of paper (without showing the rest of the team). • The teacher will share five jobs with the two teams, and the team that successfully guesses the most jobs will win! 3. Once the teams are lined up, tell the last student in each line the first job in secret. 4. After the teams are finished, review each team's guesses and see who had the most correct answers. 5. Record all the jobs on flip chart paper at the front of the room.

	<p>6. Debrief by explaining that the activity is about exploring the work that interests us. Ask the youth participants the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What sounds cool or interesting about any of these jobs?• What sounds dull about any of these jobs?• Has thinking about these particular jobs taught you anything about what your work interests might (or might not) be? If so, how?• What are some other jobs that we could add to this list? (Keep for your records to try the game again with new jobs.)
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observe for participation marks• Could use for presentation marks (ELA) for shy students