

# Introduction

Awareness is the first process for students to begin exploring career possibilities. This activity book tries to help them develop Self-knowledge, Educational and Occupational Exploration, and Career Planning awareness while exploring sixteen career clusters. Career Clusters are groupings of jobs that share common characteristics. By looking at clusters of jobs, a student may find a variety of careers with similar characteristics in which they may be interested. The Career Clusters shown in this activity book were developed by the US Department of Education. These clusters and associated careers and pathways can be viewed online at [www.careerclusters.org](http://www.careerclusters.org).

The activities in this book were prepared with the National Career Development Guidelines (NCDG) in mind to help students achieve the following twelve goals for elementary grades.

## Self-Knowledge:

1. Knowledge of the importance of self concept  
(Self-Knowledge, pg.5; My First Resume, pg.9; Work Environment, pg.23)
2. Skills to interact with others  
(Assembly Line, pg. 29)
3. Awareness of the importance of growth and change  
(The Future, pg.7)

## Educational and Occupational Exploration:

4. Awareness of the benefits of educational achievement  
(Interview, pg.35)
5. Awareness of the relationship between work and learning  
(Doghouse, pg.11; Choose an Occupation, pg.17; Interview, pg.35)
6. Skills to understand and use career information  
(Matching, pg.13; Choose an Occupation, pg.17; Maze, pg.25)
7. Awareness of the importance of personal responsibility and good work habits  
(Assembly Line, pg.29; Work Habits, pg.33)
8. Awareness of how work relates to the needs and functions of society  
(Definitions, pg.21)

## Career Planning:

9. Understand how to make decisions  
(Interview, pg.35; True/False Quiz, pg.38)
10. Awareness of the interrelationship of life roles  
(Multiple Roles, pg.27)
11. Awareness of different occupations and changing male/female roles  
(The Future, pg.7; Definitions, pg.21)
12. Awareness of the career planning process  
(Interview, pg.35; True/False Quiz, pg.38)

The activities can stand alone or be incorporated into a career curriculum. Self-knowledge, exploration and planning are life-long activities that begin at an early age.

Be Alert, Be Aware.....Careers are EVERYWHERE!     Get started now!