



Classroom Speakers

Classroom speakers are working individuals who visit schools and programs to build career awareness among students. The speaker encourages students to intentionally explore their interests and set career goals. Representatives provide an overview about the company or business, discuss careers and education requirements within their industries and share stories about their paths to get to where they are.

Checklist for Success*

For Employers

- _____ Use the Youth Business Connector to identify which schools and programs with which to participate.
- _____ Identify employees who can actively engage students while providing a relevant overview of their own careers and employers.

For Educators

- _____ Find a classroom speaker using the Youth Business Connector.
- _____ Provide the speaker with overview of course description, class dynamics and interests, key questions and points for speaker to address.
- _____ Ensure the speaker has the necessary equipment and/or assistance needed to present.
- _____ Provide speaker and company information for students to review.

For Students

- _____ Review description of guest speaker, his/her company and the goals of the presentation.
- _____ Prepare questions to ask the speaker.
- _____ Discuss and recall what was learned and how it relates to individual studies.

* This suggested checklist should be used as a guide and is not comprehensive. Each school and partner organization's process may vary.

Suggested Outline for Career Presentations

Purpose

- Inform students about your career and how and why you got into it.
- Suggest ways for students to find careers that best suit their interests, aptitudes, and skills.

Your biography

- Tell students about yourself.
- How did you get into this line of work?
- When did you know it's what you wanted to do?
- Did anyone help you decide what profession(s) you should go into?
- What other jobs have you held?
- What interests do you have outside the work place?

Preparing yourself

- How did you prepare for the job you have?
- What training would you recommend for someone interested in this field?
- How many years of education are required for this particular job?
- What kinds of jobs can you consider with training in this field?

What's the job like?

- What is a typical day like? What do you spend most of your time doing at work?
- What is your work environment like?
- What are typical salaries or wages for the field?
- What kind of work hours do you keep?
- What abilities help you to do your work?
- What do you like most about what you do?
- What do you like least about what you do?

The job prospects

- What advice would you give others preparing for this type of work?
- What do you see in the future for this line of work?
- How can someone get more information about the field and how to enter?

Next steps

- Are you interested in counseling students if they are interested in the career?
- Can you suggest other professionals who may want to help students make choices?
- Are there any opportunities for job shadowing or internships available for students?

This resource developed by:
Pearson Education
http://wps.ablongman.com/ab_sunat_socstudies_2/24/6338/1622733.cw/-/1622739/index.html
Allegheny Conference on Community Development
<http://beconnected.aiu3.net/PDFs/EmployerActivityGuideClassroomSpeakers.pdf>

The Youth Business Connector is an initiative of Charlotte Works.
www.youthbusinessconnector.com