



POSSIBLE FUTURES

A GRADES 6–10 CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM



Many youth reach adulthood without the essential knowledge, skills, and competencies needed to thrive in the rapidly changing labor market. Young people are also often unaware of career options that can lead to economic opportunity and advancement. Possible Futures, a JFF career exploration initiative for students in grades 6 to 10, helps young people develop a future-ready mindset with a skillset to match.

Possible Futures is a customizable program that provides hands-on, real-world learning opportunities for students. The initiative supports youth in building their knowledge and cultivating a sense of personal agency to direct their futures. Possible Futures includes instructional modules containing 12 to 22 lessons each, adaptable for in-school, out-of-school, or extended learning time settings.

The program complements and enriches traditional academic curricula by:

- **Expanding** career awareness through authentic experiential learning opportunities both in and out of school
- **Encouraging** students to explore their diverse interests, talents, and options
- **Enlivening** STEM subjects by connecting classroom learning to real-world and career contexts
- **Empowering** students to develop vital skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, self-direction, and persistence
- **Engaging** students in making informed choices about high school, college, and career options

Curricula Components



STEMploration

A series of hands-on lessons that place students in the role of a young professional tackling challenges in information technology, engineering, and health science



Skills for Success

An interrelated collection of research-based lessons that support youth in developing personal and professional competencies that are essential for success in their future careers



Lenses on the Future

A series of lessons designed to help students develop agency and a framework for navigating complex choices for their possible futures using the lenses of self, security, and society

What Does Possible Futures Offer?



Innovative Curricula

Interactive lessons help teachers engage students in career exploration activities that complement traditional academic instruction while building a conceptual framework for young people to consider their future options from an informed perspective.



Professional Development Support

Possible Futures offers professional development services tailored to educators' individual needs. Sessions model how to effectively apply active pedagogy, rich questioning, active STEM practices, and differentiation strategies to engage all learners. Educators explore college and career preparation and the key skills their students need to pursue postsecondary opportunities.



Customized Capacity Building and Coaching

Possible Futures provides capacity building for school systems seeking to deepen their understanding of careers and employability skills. JFF coaching can assist district administrators, educators, and employer partners to infuse career programming into the context of their site-specific needs.



Career Connections Guides

Practical guides support school leaders and staff with limited time and resources in implementing career-focused experiences. The guides provide field-tested best practices to coordinate career exploration experiences, develop young people's professional skills, and effectively engage employer and college partners.



To connect with Possible Futures, please email us at possiblefutures@jff.org



**Building a
Future
That Works**

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Possible Futures at
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