Middle Grades Career Literacy

**Sample Scope & Sequence of Possible Futures Lessons**

The Career Literacy Lessons in this overview are selected for their alignment to the **AZ Career Literacy Standards**. Collectively, these lessons engage students in the process of developing an **Education and Career Action Plan (ECAP)**. Documentation of this ECAP process in an **ECAP Portfolio** is a vital component of it’s effectiveness. The lessons are organized to facilitate engaging students in an ECAP process. We recommend using [My Future Az](https://myfutureaz.pipelineaz.com/dashboard) as a tool to create and save student ECAPs. To make the most of the platform, we recommend dedicating at least one class period to creating student accounts, completing the interest inventory survey, and exploring the platform.

This Scope & Sequence is a compilation of lessons from the *Possible Futures* Curriculum from JFF.

This Career Exploration Lessons Overview document was prepared by Maya Watts in August 2021.

# Instructional Tips

Identify pathways. A valuable component of career literacy courses is the exposure to a variety of education and career pathways. Make connections with local high schools and community colleges and ask them to share the pathways they offer. Additionally, ask all guest speakers and industry professionals that your students encounter to share their own career pathway. Aim to expose your students to as many career pathways as possible.

Focus on exploration. Teachers (and counselors) do not need to be content or industry experts when facilitating career exploration experiences. The projects in the Possible Futures curriculum are designed to be investigative and the connections to careers are embedded in the STEMploration units. Enjoy learning along with your students.

# Descriptions

**Lenses on the Future Lessons** equip students to chart a path to future success by identifying personal interests and strengths, researching college and career opportunities, and considering potential ways to contribute to society. **These lessons engage students in the process of developing an Education and Career Action Plan (ECAP).**

**Skills for Success Lessons** prepare students to gain the essential 21st-century skills of collaboration, communication, growth mindset, and self-regulation.

**STEMploration Lessons** enable students to explore the roles of young STEM professionals, using their knowledge, creativity, and collaboration skills to complete challenges based on relevant, real-world problems. These lessons can be greatly enhanced by pairing them with industry guest speakers or field trips. **Consider scheduling these lessons immediately prior to an industry guest speaker or field trip.**

| Lesson Title & Link | ECAP & AZ Career Literacy Standards | Lesson Overview | Student Learning Targets | Time |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lenses on the Future 2.0  Lesson 2: [My Strengths and Talents](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/5cd2e08e-5f8a-487a-8f9c-5417971d72ee/review) | **ECAP:** Identify and document their skills and interests. | In this lesson, you will use your Self Lens to identify your strengths and discover ways to use your talents in academic and professional settings. First, you will take a free online personality test to identify your strengths. The test is called the NERIS Type Explorer which is based on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator assessment tool. Finally, you will reflect on how you can use your strengths and talents to help achieve your goals. **Lesson PDF should be added to ECAP Portfolio.** | * Name your personal strengths * Evaluate your assets for succeeding academically or professionally * Frame goals that leverage your unique strengths and assets | 45- 60 minutes |
| Lenses on the Future 2.0  [Lesson 6: Job, Job, Car](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/4d922831-6567-4d69-8515-e92f8b2db831/review)eer | **AZ Standards: 1.2, 1.4, and 7.4** | In this Security Lenses lesson, you will explore the difference between jobs and careers. A quick opening activity will help you to assess your current understanding about the world of work. You will then analyze a Mystery Text, reflecting on the implication of the opinion piece, as well as to infer a possible theme. Finally, you will complete a reflection in which you will agree and disagree with various ideas in relation to the theme, before reflecting on the conceptual difference between jobs and careers. **Lesson PDF should be added to ECAP Portfolio.** | * Evaluate the difference between a job and a career. * Infer a theme based on context clues. * Analyze text to find connections, agreements, and contradictions. | 45-50 minutes |
| STEMploration Engineering & Design 2.0  [Lesson 1: Introduction to Engineering](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/353c03d9-8406-4204-88b9-c855a4a0c376/review) |  | Have you ever wondered what a career in engineering would be like? In this lesson, you will be introduced to career options in the field of engineering. We are going to start by looking at an important data point in a Mystery Data activity. Then, we'll look at some images to help you start thinking about some of the career options in engineering. Finally, you will have a chance to discuss what you have learned about the field of engineering and your thoughts about engineering career options with your classmates. As a bonus activity, you will be able to work with a family member or trusted friend to learn more about future engineering career options. | * Describe some of the careers in the engineering field. * Explain why it is important to make informed career choices. * Use digital media to learn more about a specific engineering career. | 45-50 minutes |
| STEMploration Health Sciences 2.0  [Lesson 1: Introduction](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/431fe162-fcd5-4796-bbc8-d673a9bc941b/review) |  | Have you ever thought about what a career in health sciences might be like? This lesson is an introduction to the Allied Health Sciences. In this lesson you will review different possibilities and careers in the health sciences and take a first-person role as a first responder. You will also begin to follow the case of a young skateboarder from accident to recovery. | * Describe some of the careers in the Allied Health Sciences. * Explain why it is important to make informed career choices. * Use subjective and objective information to make sense of an emergency situation. | 45-50 minutes |
| STEMploration Information Technology 2.0  [Lesson 1: Introduction](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/4fcba0f5-d963-47cb-a8d7-07455b9d55be/review) |  | Have you noticed how many things in our lives are controlled by computers? Have you ever thought of working with computers? In this lesson, you’ll find out about the many kinds of career options there are in the field of computing, which is also called information technology or IT. You’ll begin by looking at some mystery data and trying to figure out what it could represent about the information technology profession. You’ll also participate in a virtual gallery walk, where you will consider some of the many opportunities for careers in information technology and then share your ideas in a Flipgrid. To close the lesson, you’ll record your thoughts on the career that stands out to you the most. | * Describe some of the careers in information technology. * Explain why it is important to make informed career choices. * Use a digital medium to learn more about a specific career. | 45-50 minutes |
| STEMploration Cybersecurity 2.0  [Lesson 4: Introduction to Cybersecurity](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/11565c28-8b5e-4e71-9aee-06a65a516dac/review) |  | In this lesson, you will be introduced to the topics of cybersecurity and the Internet of Things. First, you will view some videos to learn about cybersecurity and the Internet of Things. Next, you will read an article about the Internet of Things and identify how it relates to cybersecurity. Then you will be introduced to different careers in cybersecurity. You will find out what kinds of careers interest you by doing an activity that shows the various career paths in cybersecurity. Lastly, you will find out if cybersecurity is the right field for you by "taking a stand" to show how you feel about each question regarding cybersecurity and if it sounds like a career you would enjoy. | * Evaluate how the Internet of Things impacts cybersecurity * Evaluate the importance of cybersecurity in your lives * Explore the tradeoffs associated with using computer technology in various career fields * Identify the different careers in cybersecurity * Evaluate the tradeoffs associated with using computer technology in various career fields |  |
| Skills for Success 2.0  Lesson 9: [Celebrating Failure](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/ac7da226-a0b6-45b8-8b16-4a36fb425a61/review) | **AZ Standards:** 2.4 | Failure is unavoidable, but how we view failure influences the conditions for a growth mindset or a fixed mindset. The object of this lesson is to normalize—and even celebrate—failure. First, the concepts of perspective and reframing failure will be introduced. You will then be challenged in your understanding of failure in order to plant the seeds that success, talent, and intelligence are not fixed traits, but are often the results of application, effort, and support. **Lesson PDF should be added to ECAP Portfolio.** | * Describe how people may have different perspectives on the same event * Experience examples of “failing forward” and how it applies to learning, growth, and/or success * Determine the differences between a fixed mindset and growth mindset. | 45- 60 minutes |
| Skills for Success 2.0  [Lesson 12: The Myth of Multitasking](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/7c2c10f7-cf55-4d74-8928-69c602aca75b/review) | **AZ Standards:** 7.2 | In this lesson, you will learn about the assumptions associated with multitasking. You will analyze and compare multitasking and single-tasking. Based on your analysis and understanding, you will reflect on your own assumptions about multitasking | * Understand the assumptions associated with multitasking * Compare and contrast multitasking versus single-tasking * Reflect on your own assumptions about multitasking | 45-50 minutes |
| Lenses on the Future 2.0  Lesson 3: [Connecting Careers](https://360.articulate.com/review/content/e7bda063-7113-4339-af68-2a7a1b9b9cdd/review) | **ECAP: Identify and document careers that align with personal interests and skills.** | This lesson uses the Self Lens and starts with identifying your sparks – but it requires you to move beyond simply identifying your strengths and interests; you will now begin to recognize how your unique talents can align to careers. Using the framework of career clusters, you will explore many different careers and think about how your specific strengths may be applied to various industries. Lesson PDF should be added to ECAP Portfolio. | * Identify possible connections between personal interests and careers * Categorize jobs within career clusters * Apply an exploratory mindset to career clusters | 45- 60 minutes |