



Time
Required:
30 minutes

Grade Level:
3rd -5th
grades

Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace Activity
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Choices Choices

Infusionomics Themes, Keystone Economic Principles, and Skills for the 21st Century Marketplace:

•**THEME: CHOICES**

- Keystone Economic Principle™ #1:** We all Make Choices
- Keystone Economics Principle™ #3:** All Choices Have Consequences
- Skills:** 2. Professional Dvelopment; a. Career Planning

** For additional standards and content references, please see the [end of document](#).

Overview: The students will sort career jobs and specific schools in their community according to the three main types of post secondary schools offered in the U.S. (vocational schools, community colleges, and 4 year colleges or universities).

Objectives: The students will begin exploring post secondary schooling options by learning about the three main types of post secondary schools offered in the U.S. (vocational schools, community colleges, and 4 year colleges and universities).

Materials and Handouts:

[Handout #1](#) – Career Pictures

[Handout #2](#) - Educational Choice after High School

A blank sheet of paper and a writing utensil for each student

Pre-Activity:

- Begin by posting pictures of six different career jobs on the board using [Handout #1](#).
- Give each student a blank sheet of paper and have them create three columns on it.
- Ask each student (or small group of students) to arrange the six different career jobs into three different groups depending on the type of school they would have to go to in order to

prepare for that career job. Tell students they will end up with 2 jobs in each group they create.

- Tell the students to write the names of the career jobs on their paper in the columns that represent the grouping they have chosen.
- Ask the students to try and come up with the names of the three types of schools that fit the groupings they have chosen.

Activity:

- Ask students: *“Why would a person go back to school after they have graduated from high school?”*
 - The correct answer is to prepare them for a career in a specific area
- There are lots of schools that a person can choose to apply to in order to prepare for a career in a specific area.
- Those schools are categorized into three main types of schools that you can choose from after you complete high school.
- They are vocational school, community college and four-year college or university.
- Distribute [Handout #2](#)- Education Choices after High School
- Tell the student to fill in the information about each type of school
 - A vocational school is where you learn specific trades
 - Ask students, “What type of careers can you learn about at a vocational school?”
 - Answers can include hairstylist, plumber, electrician computer technician, etc.
 - If you know the names of any vocational schools in your area share them with your students and have them write them down in the “My Community” box for vocational school.
 - Ask students do they know anyone who went to a vocational school
 - What did they study?
 - Where do they work?
 - A community college is a two year school where you can earn an associate’s degree. You can also take classes that may transfer to a four-year college or university.
 - Tell the students that community college students will most likely study a specific academic subject (for example Math, English, or Biology) or a specific professional field (for example banking, culinary arts, or business)
 - If you know the name(s) of any community college(s) in your area share them with your students and have them write them down in the schools in my community box for community college
 - Ask students do they know anyone who went to a community college
 - What did they study?
 - Where do they work?
 - A four-year college or university is a school where you can earn a bachelor’s degree. Usually, colleges are smaller and offer fewer degrees and universities are larger and allow you to earn masters or doctoral degree also.

- Tell the students that four-year college or university students will most likely study a specific academic subject (for example Math, English, or Biology) or a specific professional field (for example education, music, or law)
- List the names of any four-year colleges or universities in your area and have them write them down in the school in my community box for four-year colleges or universities
- Have the students resort the original six pictures to see if they can sort them correctly.

Writing Prompt or Class Discussion:

Here are some optional questions for writing prompts and/or class discussion.

- Share the name and type of school that you graduated from and how it prepared you for a career in education.
- Ask students what type of school their parents graduated from and what they have chosen for careers.
- Have students journal on their ideas and goals for the future.

Additional Standards and Content References

Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics:

- Standard #1 : Scarcity; Consumers
- Standard #2 : Decision Making
- Standard #4 : Incentives
- Standard #6 : Specialization

Partnership for 21st Century Life Skills Concept:

- Life and Career Skills > Initiative and Self Direction>Manage goals and time>set goals with tangible and intangible success criteria

National Content Standards for Entrepreneurship Education:

- Ready Skills; H. Professional Development, Career Planning, H.05 Determine tentative occupational interest

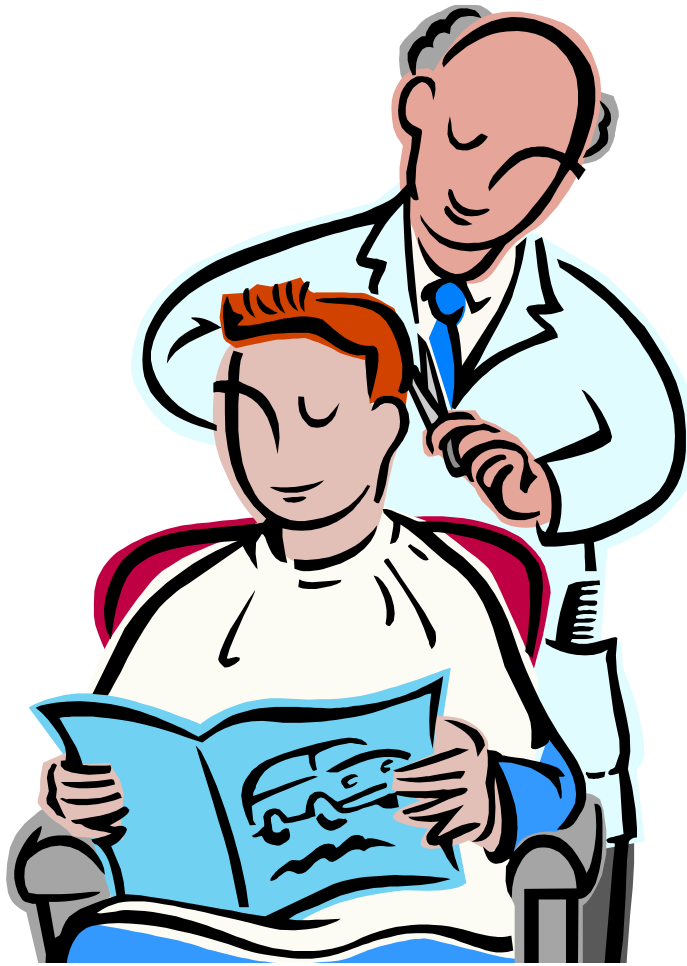
Keystone Economic Principles™:

- For more information: http://infusionomics.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Keystone_Cheat.pdf

Handout #1



Doctor



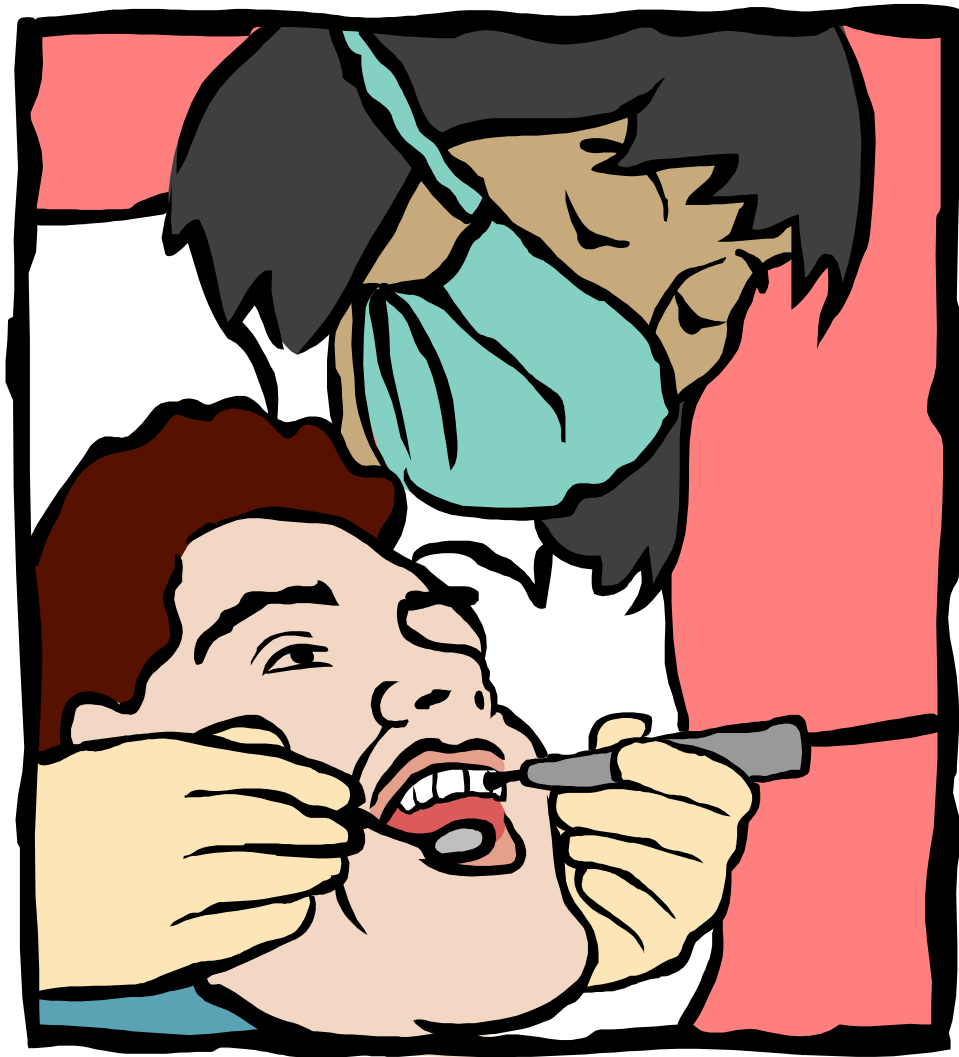
Barber



Mechanic



Teacher



Dental Assistant



Certified Nurse Assistant (Associates degree)

Educational Choices after High School

Type	Vocational school	Community college	Four year college or university
Description			
Schools in my community			