

Teacher Quest Tampa Bay Pilot Program

2009 Action Plan

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Lesson Title: Planning for Your Future

Grade Level: 8th

Subject Area: Science

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Summer work experience:

Company: The International Propeller Club of the U. S. – Port of Tampa

Position: Maritime Intern

This summer I spent a week with six different companies. My goal was to learn as many of the careers associated with the Port of Tampa. The first week was spent with the Tampa Bay Pilots Association. While there I had the opportunity to ride on the pilot boat. This boat takes the pilots to and from vessels that are inbound and outbound of the channel that consists of the Port of Tampa. I also had a chance to ride on a shifting. Any boat that moves in the Port of Tampa must have a pilot on board.

The second week I was with A.R. Savage & Son, which is a shipping agent. Agents control all communications and handling of a vessel through a port, with the owner's interest in mind. They are the first to board a ship that comes into the port and the last to disembark when a vessel is leaving the port. I shadowed a couple of agents as they went on ships at arrival and departure, as well as going to the U.S. Customs office where paperwork must be filed.

For the third week of my work experience I was with Marine Towing of Tampa. The tug boats assist the ships as they move through the channels at very slow speeds. Most of these ships are extremely difficult to maneuver while they are going slow. Tug boats are tied to the vessels and help by pushing or pulling the ships in directions communicated by the pilots for easy docking and undocking. I was given the opportunity to steer a couple of the tug boats while going to or coming from a job.

My fourth week took me away from the Port, but we still relied on its use for movement of the products. MOSAIC is a company that mines phosphate for fertilizer here in Central Florida. The process begins with the mining of phosphate rock. The rock is then cleaned through a process that separates sand from clay, and leaves the raw material of phosphate. MOSAIC imports molten sulfur and anhydrous ammonia for making their fertilizer. The final fertilizer product and raw rock material are exported through the Port. MOSAIC is the largest fertilizer producer in the world and exports 50% of its products right here in Tampa, Florida.

Lesson Plan/Unit of Study:

Objective(s): During this lesson students will:

1. Explain the impact of the Port of Tampa in their lives.
2. Research careers associated with the Port of Tampa and do an in-depth research assignment on one career of interest.
3. Have a clear understanding of at least three career opportunities associated with the Port of Tampa and their career pathways.

Sunshine State Standards:

SC.8.N.4.1: Explain that science is one of the processes that can be used to inform decision making at the community, state, national, and international levels.

SC.8.N.1.5: Analyze the methods used to develop a scientific explanation as seen in different fields of science.

SC.8.N.1.6: Understand that scientific investigations involve the collection of relevant empirical evidence, the use of logical reasoning, and the application of imagination in devising hypotheses, predictions, explanations and models to make sense of the collected evidence.

Materials: Media Center, Computers, Newspapers, Magazines, Guest Speakers, Interviews

Instructional Procedures:

This project will be a semester long project. Incorporating class discussions, guest speakers, and research, students will use various learning styles to conduct their research on various subject areas.

Week 1: Introduce Variety of Maritime Careers

Introduce the careers I was exposed to during my maritime internship through a PowerPoint presentation including pictures of my summer experience, as well as other pictures found from various resources that cover other maritime careers that I did not engage in.

Week 2: Assign, 5 X 5 – Due Week 6

Students will conduct basic research on 5 potential careers (either mentioned in presentations or through research on the maritime industry) that interest them. Students will be asked to write a paragraph describing each career. The paragraphs each must include the career name and basic job description.

Week 4: Essay, Port field trip – Due Week 4

Students will take a field trip to the Port of Tampa and then write an essay describing their experience. The essay will be a minimum of 3 paragraphs. Grading for the essay will be based on content, not grammar.

Week 5: Essay, Guest Speaker – Due Week 5

Several guests speakers will present to the class and the students will be asked to write an essay on the speaker's presentation. The essay will be a minimum of 3 paragraphs. Grading for the essay will be based on content and improved writing and grammar from first essay.

Week 6: Complete a Q & A on chosen career field – Due Week 6

The Q & A assignment will be designed to help students explore a chosen career field more in-depth. Questions will include: career name, subtitles given, work environment, job description, responsibilities, certification requirements to enter the school for higher education or training, how they plan to pay for higher education or training, career path (how long it takes to reach their career goal), benefits offered in the field, employers for this field, history of career field (why it was first started and how it has developed or changed over the years), why this field is attractive to the student and what the student would do to reach the goal of working in this field.

Week 7: Interview a Professional – Due Week 9

While developing communication skills, this activity is designed to encourage students to think about questions they have about the career they have chosen. Students will be required to come up with at least 8 questions for an interview. Once the questions are complete, students will be asked to call a company that offers the career field and ask permission to interview a professional in the selected field. Students will then turn in their questions with the interviewee's responses and the students' reflections/thoughts on the responses.

Week 8: Assign, Report – Due Week 14

Students will conduct research in the media center and find 2 books or 4 articles from newspapers or magazines which highlight, explain or describe the career they have chosen. The report will have an 800 word minimum length and should summarize the material read as well as properly cite all sources.

Week 10: Assign, Resume & Cover Letter – Due Week 15

Students will be asked to create a resume and cover letter using the information they have researched. The resume and cover letter will be written in future fictitious form as long as it follows the goals they established in the Q & A assignment.

Week 12: Mock Interviewing

Students will be interviewed for their chosen career. A group of 3 – 4 maritime professionals will ask a series of 4 – 5 career-based questions to each student. Students will be graded based on their responses (may be future fictitious based on education/training requirements) to questions asked about the position. Students will be asked to dress appropriately for an interview.

Week 14: Career Presentation – Due Week 18

Students will create 4 – 5 PowerPoint slides and present their career selection. Each student will be given a strict 5 minute time limit on their presentation. Visuals will be encouraged for the presentations.

Integration of summer work experience:

Encouraging students to work on an assignment has become a challenging job. Building social skills among students generates more respect for what students are engaging in while in class. Students are finding it more beneficial with social skills to listen and respond constructively as well as participate regularly in class. Once students are taught key skills for interacting with their classmates, they can be motivated to work.

Motivation is extremely important when trying to push students to achieve at higher levels. Setting high expectations for students is not only going to benefit them now, but for their futures as well. When we present challenging material to our students we are encouraging them to solve problems. Students will need to possess these problem solving skills in order to compete in a global market (world).

Utilizing my Teacher Quest work experience, guest speakers, and field trips, I will motivate students and be able to set high goals for them. Using what I learned this summer will allow me to capture my students' interests and motivate them.

Assessment Instrument:

Each of the individual assignments will be graded based on the descriptions provided above. Students will be given a rubric to assist with generating their responses for the assignments.