**What Do You Want To Be When You Grow Up?**

It’s never too early to start exploring your interests and possible career pathways. Ask yourself: *What am I good at? What do I love to do?* Whether it’s playing sports or playing an instrument, your interests today say a lot about what career you might have tomorrow. Log into **Naviance** and try out the **Cluster Finder** survey to explore information about career pathways or specific careers based on your interests.

**Here are some examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interests or Career Pathway</th>
<th>Career Focus</th>
<th>Sample Jobs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td><em>Working to help people</em></td>
<td>Dental Hygienist, Physical Therapist Surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Food &amp; Natural Resources</td>
<td><em>Working with and managing resources in the natural world</em></td>
<td>Fish/Wildlife Manager, Marine Biologist, Water Quality Techni-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, Audio/Visual Technology &amp; Communications</td>
<td><em>Using ideas and information to express personal perspectives and communica-</em></td>
<td>Graphic Designer, Film and Video Editor, Interior Designer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science, Technology, Engineering &amp; Math</td>
<td><em>Working with objects, data, and ideas to create, move, change, operate, or build</em></td>
<td>Aircraft Mechanic, Computer Programmer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Management &amp; Administration</td>
<td><em>Working with people and information to lead and manage the delivery of products and services to the</em></td>
<td>Accountant, Lawyer, Real Estate Agent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law, Public Safety, Corrections &amp; Security</td>
<td><em>Working to help people and solve social problems</em></td>
<td>Librarian, Police Officer, Social Worker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [Career Guidance Washington](#)

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**Did You Know?**

Career Bridge provides details on nearly 6,000 education and training programs at Washington’s schools, colleges, and universities. For example, users can search hundreds of apprenticeships, which offer students a paycheck while they learn a high-wage skill. This free, state website, [careerbridge.wa.gov](http://careerbridge.wa.gov) is Washington’s top source for career and education planning.
Myth Buster

**MYTH:** Majors = Specific Jobs

**REALITY:** With a few exceptions (like nursing and accounting), most majors do not prepare you for a specific line of work. In fact, some estimate that **65 percent** of college graduates take work in fields that are outside of their major or discipline. While this can be frustrating at first, it can really have its advantages. The work you do and the skills you learn in your major prepare you for a wide variety of jobs and opportunities found in this ever-changing job market. It is no longer the case that people go to college to prepare for life-long careers. Think of it as job freedom!

**Student Checklist**

Check out scholarship opportunities in Naviance! There are scholarships available for middle schoolers but you need to apply! **Go to:** [colleges](#) ➔ [scholarship list](#)

Explore your interest and research possible career pathways and what kind of education you’ll need for each one. **Go to:** [careers](#) ➔ [explore careers & clusters](#)

Think about ways you might be able to get hands-on experience in a field you like. Explore volunteer opportunities, sports, and more.

**Family Checklist**

Continue to help your teen explore careers and interests. Talk to your teen about the kinds of activities he or she is interested in – it doesn’t have to be sports or an academically-related club.

Consider potential careers and try to find activities related to fields he or she is interested in. Consider activities outside of school in your community in the summer.

Check out options for taking middle school courses for high school credit.

1. Algebra
2. Computer Applications
3. Coordinated Science
4. English 1
5. Geometry
6. Spanish 1
7. Washington State History

**Have Naviance Questions?** naviance@everettsd.org

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**Check Student Online Grades Here!**

Visit [readysetgrad.org](http://readysetgrad.org) to learn more and access resources to help your student make a plan.