Career activities for year 9-10 students

Workmate

Purpose: To help students realise that skills and personal qualities are important when working in teams and to teach the difference between a personal quality and a skill.

Structure: Small groups of 5 -7.

Duration: About 1 hour.

Resources: Copies of instruction/task sheet.

Instructions: Distribute the instruction/task sheet. Split the class into groups. Explain what is required in the task. Set a time limit for completing the task as a group activity. Emphasise that the groups should cooperate to agree on the skills and personal qualities required.

Variations: After the groups have listed their personal qualities and skills, distribute some prepared descriptions of people that they must choose between. Vary the task the team has to do such as survive on a desert island or organise a birthday party.

Guidelines: This activity can generate discussion on what's important for a job. It can also lead to discussion on how groups work together (or not!!) to make shared decisions. You may want to do some work first on the difference between a personal quality and a skill.

Credit: Adapted by Roger Peak from 'Games for Social and Life Skills' by Tim Bond (Hutchison 1985).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential learning area</th>
<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem solving</td>
<td>Essential Skills</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Social and Cooperation</td>
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</tbody>
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| Career education link | Developing self-awareness: self-concept; personal interests, qualities and strengths; Interactions with others; Making decisions and planning; Decision making skills; Taking action; The workplace. |

Classification: Career Activities/Year 9-10 © Career Services rapuara
**Workmate Instruction Sheet**

You are part of a 6 or 7 person team that has the job of planning, organising, fundraising and supervising a one week long class skiing trip on Mt Ruapehu. Your group has to arrange everything - accommodation, cooking, activities, ski lessons, first aid etc.

You need to add one more member to your team. Write a profile of the sort of person you would want in the space below. Do this as if they are a real person (i.e. give them a name and an age).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Sex:</th>
<th>Male/Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Under 10</td>
<td>11-20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Personal qualities: (e.g. willing to take orders, good looking, funny etc).

Skills: (e.g. good with money, able to cook etc).

Once you have got as clear a picture as possible of this person, write down the five most important things that make you want to work with him/her.

(1) ____________________________________________________________

(2) ____________________________________________________________

(3) ____________________________________________________________

(4) ____________________________________________________________

(5) ____________________________________________________________