



relevance

CAREER OPTIONS FOR YOUR FUTURE

Discussion Guide

2022

CAREER DESIGN-

YOUR DIY PROJECT



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2022

Relevance 2022: Your DIY Project

This guide is designed with teachers and students in mind but can be used by anyone who is discovering what this year's edition of *Relevance* offers. Teachers, please tailor this document to meet the needs of your unique classes.

Introduction

On page 4 and 5, readers are given some quick snapshots of what to expect in the magazine. Note the four themes and read the advice provided for each. Which piece of advice do you relate to the most?



Peer Profiles: Teachers, choose which option (A, B, or C) best suits your class.

In *Relevance 2022*, you will find eight interviews with young professionals from Saskatchewan (pages 6, 10, 14, 18, 38, 42, 44, 47). These young workers are not that far removed from being a student like you are now.

Option A

After reading through the eight *Peer Profiles*, respond to each question (1-5) by referring to a different profile for each answer:

- 1) Which person had the most unique career path? Briefly describe this career journey.
- 2) What are the **three** pieces of advice that you find the most helpful? From three separate profiles, list:
 - a. The person's name.
 - b. The advice they give.
 - c. Why you find this advice helpful and/or interesting.
- 3)
 - a. If you were an employer, which of these people would you hire?
 - b. What qualities make this person a potentially great employee?
- 4)
 - a. Which of these people works in an industry that is most interesting to you?
 - b. What is the industry?
 - c. Why is it interesting to you?
- 5)
 - a. Which of the industries are you least likely to be involved in?
 - b. Why isn't this a good fit for you?

Option B (Teachers, you could assign all or just some of these questions).

1. Amber Thomas, page 6.

- a. List challenges that Amber has faced in her life.
- b. How did Amber overcome those challenges?
- c. Use Google to discover what a cyclotron is.
- d. What options do students have if they are struggling in school and want help?

2. Landon Garrison, page 10.

Landon is a techpreneur—an entrepreneur in the technology field. Before you read this article, it may be helpful to understand what “Start-ups” are.

- a. People’s career paths rarely follow a straight line. What are two ways that Landon’s journey demonstrates that this statement is true?
- b. How did Landon come up with his idea to start Clevr?
- c. Employers today value the technology skills in their employees. List the technology-based skills that you possess. For example: Can you use Microsoft or Google products? Have you tried coding? Have you tried fixing a computer or developing a game? Even the most basic skills can go on your future resumé!

3. Dayna Georges, page 14.

- a. How would you describe Dayna’s career path in the trades?
- b. What is the difference between a journeyperson and an apprentice? You may need to look this up on another site.
- c. Dayna mentions that she felt “green” when moving to a real shop. What does she mean by this, and what can you learn from how she handled this feeling?

4. Joshua Snow, page 18.

- a. What is an actuary? You might need to look this up using a different source.
- b. What is a “post grad diploma”? How can a program like this help a person in their career journey?
- c. Josh says that people can “cultivate a passion” rather than finding an occupation they are passionate about. What is the difference between these two points of view on choosing directions in your career?

5. Kennadi Sitar, page 38.

- a. What lesson can you learn from Kennadi’s career journey before pharmacy?
- b. Choose one of the following options:
 - i. Kennadi is asked about her soft skills. What are your top soft skills? For more information, read the article on Page 9 and visit the [Employment Skills](#) page on contact360.ca.
 - ii. What would be fulfilling about being a Pharmacy Technician? Learn more about this role [here](#).

6. Rashique Ramiz, page 42.

- a. Rashique attended Grad School at the University of Regina. What is “grad school”?
- b. Why would someone attend grad school? Consider how it can help in their career journey.

Both questions “a” and “b” can be answered after reading about how Jennifer Buffalo achieved a Master’s degree on Page 44.

- c. Rashique felt he did not fit in as a child because he wasn’t an athlete, but he found a place in the arts community. What are three things that you are good at that an employer could be impressed with?

7. Jennifer Buffalo, page 44. In Jennifer’s career, it has been important to connect with experiences where her identity is valued. What are three aspects of your identity that you hope will be valued in your post-secondary studies and/or in your future workplace?

8. Kerrilee Kinder, page 47. Like Landon (page 10), Kerrilee’s career path has definitely not been *linear*. Think of how this lesson affects the way you think about the career path you might follow.

- a. A willingness to ask questions is something that Kerrilee says is important for young workers. This is also something that many employers value. What are two areas of your life where you could ask more questions? Consider how this could have a positive effect on your life.

Option C

Get into a small group and your teacher will assign you each one of the *Peer Profile* or *Mentor Profile* interviews to research. Read the article and prepare some notes so that you can share what you learned with your class.

Guiding Questions:

- 1) Who is the person being profiled?
 - 2) What is this person’s current occupation?
 - 3) What made this person’s career path unique?
 - 4) If you were this person’s supervisor, what qualities make this person a valuable employee?
 - 5) What advice does this person provide for young people who are beginning their career path?
 - 6) What is one thing that this person’s profile makes each of your group members consider?
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Other Articles

1. **Skills: the 4 Cs of Workplace Success, page 7.** Employers often say that they hire people and then teach skills. This means that the soft skills described in this article are highly valued!
 - a. Which one of the 4 C's is a skill that you could improve?
 - b. What can you do to improve this skill?
 - c. How can improving this skill benefit you in a current or future workplace?
2. **Virtual Reality, page 11.** VR is affecting many occupations in our province! Imagine an occupation that you would like to have in the future. How might VR help you prepare for this role?
3. **Safety is Your Best Friend on the Job, page 12.** After reading the article, write down your three basic rights in the workplace. Depending on what you've discussed about safety in class prior to the article, check out at least one of the links to Workplace Safety Resources to learn more about the importance of safety.
4. **Trades & Technologies, page 13.**
 - a. Read the article and then look at the [SYA](#) site. Explore the benefits of the Sask Youth Apprenticeship program for students both during and after high school. Write these down or discuss as a class.
 - b. Choose one of the online resource links. Once you have explored the site, report back to a group or your class about the advantages of being a part of the program that you read about.
5. **Spotlight: Careers in Insurance, page 16-17.**
 - a. List each of the nine roles in the insurance industry.
 - b. For each role, in ten words or less, write down what a professional in this role does.
6. **Job Search: Links to Your Future, page 19.** Read the two tips and look at the sites that are listed. Under each of the four headings, choose a site to explore and consider how each one is useful for people searching for a job. Come together as a class to discuss the sites that were the most helpful.
7. **Your DIY Toolbox, pages 36-37.** Complete the activity on page 37 and consider how your result can impact your future career. Also, it is recommended that you look at the sites listed on page 36. Think of how each could help you in the future.

Continued on the following page...

8. **3 Essential Money Habits, page 40.** Read the three habits to help manage money. Maybe all of these apply to you right now, but perhaps none of them do. What is a habit that you need to develop to help you manage your money so you can achieve what is important to you in your life?
 9. **3 Ways to Build Your Resume, page 41.**
 - a. Many students who do not have much work experience think that they won't have a lot of content to include in their resumé. Consider the list under "Make the Most of Your Education" and write down three things from your school experience that you could include on your resumé. If you can't think of three, write down three things you could achieve at school by the end of Grade 12 that you could include. *For more information, read this [Resumé Tips](#) article on [contact360.ca](#), and pay close attention to point number 2!*
 - b. Read the five examples under "Highlight Your Experience." Create at least one of your own examples that you could include in your resume.
 10. **DIY Career Education, page 43.** What are *Microcredentials*, and how can they be a valuable part of your current or future education?
 11. **Interview Skills, page 50.** If you were to do an online interview for a job, what would be the most challenging things for you? Would you rather do an interview online or in person? *For more information on job interviews, visit [contact360.ca's Interview Skills](#).*
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Mentor Profiles: Read the profiles of these two professionals who are leaders in their industries. Respond to the questions and discuss what you learned with your peers.

Ben Borne, page 48.

- a. Like many of the professionals in this magazine, Ben's life and career journey has been filled with challenges and shifts in direction. What is something that Ben said that you can relate to, or something that you have not considered before?
- b. At the end of this article, Ben provides excellent advice for students. Write down and/or discuss with a friend how one of the following applies to your future career journey:
 - classes you enjoy or do not connect with
 - finding what you love to do
 - choosing what you do not want to do in the future.

Continued on the following page...

Dr. Monique Simair, page 49.

- a. If you could take a gap year after your high school graduation. What would you do? Keep in mind that a year with no achievements on a resumé can be a red flag for many employers (this means they might question hiring you!).
- b. *Activity:* Dr. Simair is described as an innovator—she identifies needs in the world, and she creates solutions to help people. The two companies she founded are examples of this. Complete the following tasks on your own or with a partner:
 - ✓ Think of an issue that is very important to you in the world. For Dr. Simair, it was “keeping our water safe.” What’s important to you could be related to activities you like or your personal values. Write down a few options and narrow it down to your most important choice.
 - ✓ What is something that is needed in our world to improve the issue you chose? For example, Dr. Simair saw that mining companies could do less harm to water so she created a company that could help them.
 - ✓ Get into a small group and explain your choices to each other.
 - ✓ As a group, come up with at least one idea of a solution that you could create to make each issue more positive.

BONUS 1: Come up with a name for each person’s company.

BONUS 2: Look online to see if your solution is already in action somewhere in the world. If it is, how could you alter your solution? If it isn’t, how would you go about turning this idea into action?

Continued on the following page...

2022 Job Chart

You will find this section on pages 20-35.

Your task is to choose **one** job from **five** of the following sections (you pick the sections):

- a. Business, Finance and Administration (light blue)
- b. Natural & Applied Science (orange)
- c. Health (purple)
- d. Social Science, Education, Government, & Religion (pink)
- e. Art, Culture, Recreation, & Sport (yellow)
- f. Sales & Service (peach)
- g. Trades, Transport, & Equipment Operation (brown)
- h. Natural Resources, Agriculture, & Related Production (dark blue)
- i. Process, Manufacturing, & Utilities (green)



Once you have your five jobs selected, write down the following:

- i. Job title.
- ii. What do you do in the job?
- iii. Where do you get education/training to do the job?
- iv. One reason why you think you would be good at that job.

Next Step: On page 19, there is a list of job search sites. Access one or more of these links to see what job opportunities are out there for **two** of the jobs you chose. When you find them, identify a skill that each job requires, and describe how this fits your skill set.

Take this a step further by looking up post-secondary options and details about the type of job on your myblueprint.ca account!
