

## THE CAREER GAME FOR PARENTS

**Recognize** that each child is an individual with interests, skills and priorities that may be very different from your own. Parents who recognize and support their children's realities of personality, interests and capabilities can do a lot to help them make the right career choice.

**Understand** that the answers and preferences your child chose to share can be early signs of career direction. Does he enjoy fixing and building things? That might suggest occupations ranging from carpenter to architect. Does she like to read and research? That can be related to teaching, travel, news or many other careers.

**Encourage** your child to use Internet and school resources to learn as much as possible about the jobs that match his or her personality. *The Career Game* sites will link each student's best job possibilities to a wealth of information about each one. They are accessible 24/7 from any computer, tablet or smartphone.

**Discuss** your student's results and reports. Which matching jobs does he like best? Why? What is the path to getting that job? What are the long-term prospects for that job?

**Teach** about the relationship between education and opportunity. *The Career Game* sites allow students to match interests to jobs at four incremental educational levels. If your child has a PIN, you can do this together at home. As an example: Mary's interest scores point to biological, people-involved occupations. With a college degree one of her job matches is Registered Nurse. With an associate's degree that occupation would be unavailable to her, but she's also a good match for a Hospital Technician or Dental Hygienist job.

**Involve** and encourage friends and relatives to share information about their occupations with your child. If and when appropriate, ask them to bring your child to their workplace to learn more about a career of interest.

**Suggest** that your student volunteers for a charity or community organization. Such environments offer many similarities to the world of work.

**Help** your child find summer and seasonal employment. Nothing beats a real job.

**Plan** family and leisure time activities that explore your child's interests, abilities and skills.

**Participate** in parent involvement activities at your child's school, particularly those related to career exploration.