

Developing Career Awareness: What Do Students Need from Their Family?

To develop career awareness, we must create an environment where students see connections between school and the real world. You can help your children make these connections with the following updates to your routine.

- **Encouragement.** Give your child praise for effort and completing assignments. Encourage him or her to try their hardest on all projects and assignments.
- **Availability.** Encourage your child to do their work independently but be available to help when needed.
- **Routine.** Set aside time each day for homework and chores. You may want to use a calendar to keep track of due dates and tasks.
- **Involvement and Support.** Talk to your child about school and homework. Ask your student to share their homework, projects, and other schoolwork with you and then ask how things are going. You can help your student prepare for spelling tests or other tests by quizzing them at home. Be willing to contact their teacher when problems arise.
- **Dream Aloud.** Children dream big – and their dreams aren't about you. As far as kids are concerned, anything is possible. As children grow and develop, they will begin to show interests in many different things. They will start to give more attention to what really interest them, some of which will turn into dreams and goals. To help your children achieve these dreams, you should show them how and help lead the way.
- **Expectations.** Set expectations for:
 - when homework is done
 - when your child may watch TV
 - time spent playing video games
 - time spent playing on the computer
 - time limits for talking on the phone

If your child does not have homework, have them read for at least 30 minutes to continue creating an environment of supportive learning.