

RUReady to Dig In Case Studies

1. Logan--Beginning to Think About Careers

Logan is very bright, but he has difficulty concentrating in classroom situations. He is unsure about his career goals.

Logan says he really loves math and chemistry because they are reality-based -- he can see the results quickly and prove he is right. He also likes mechanics and tinkering with electronic things because he loves solving problems by himself.

Logan plays the flute exceptionally well and thinks he would like to be a musician. However, he values money a lot and feels that music would not allow him to earn the kind of income he wants.

2. Jane--Considering Dropping Out of School

Jane is struggling in her academic studies. She is discouraged and is thinking of quitting because she finds her studies so difficult.

Jane says that she works best in situations where she does not have to be the leader and where she is able to see what she has accomplished.

She is interested in working with people and has done some volunteer work at the local senior's home. It makes her feel good to help others. She likes talking with the elderly and helping them do crafts.

One of her hobbies is woodworking and she has even sold some dollhouses to family friends.

Jane's aptitude tests show that she has above-average ability in manual dexterity, hand-eye coordination and spatial ability. She loves drafting, but has difficulty doing geometry. Jane is a hard worker who applies herself as long as she is doing what she enjoys.

3. Fred--Unrealistic Approach to Career Goal

Fred is interested in becoming an engineer. However, he is currently failing his physics course. Although he has received counseling and all the best information available, he still refuses to accept the need to improve in this area to meet the requirements of his career goal.

When asked why he wants to be an engineer, Fred says that he wants to make a lot of money and have a job at the end of his training. He has heard that there is a need for engineers where he lives.

He really does not want to go to university because he does not like studying very much. He would rather take motors apart and fix mechanical things in the basement than study.

4. Harry--Peer Pressure Regarding Career Choice

Harry is good with numbers and is sure he wants to be an accountant.

However, other people have told him that this career is boring, and now he is beginning to doubt his dream.

Working with Choices Planner is a course requirement. At this point, he is stuck between his plan and the doubts his peers have planted. What should he do?

5. Kindra--Interested in a Particular Field of Work

Kindra is very artistic and loves to draw and paint. She has completed several drawing classes and thinks she would like to become an artist.

English and art are her favorite subjects. However, she has heard that artists do not make much money. Therefore, she is looking for something that will allow her to use her artistic interests, but will pay her a decent wage.

Kindra is very intelligent and very personable. She has often been elected leader of groups she joined as she is outgoing and is able to convince others to work towards accomplishing a goal. Although she likes working with people, she has no desire to be a psychologist or anything like that.

6. Althea--Combining Physical Limitations With Career Interests

Althea is looking for advice about which occupation she should pursue. Since she is physically challenged, she wants to avoid occupations that require her to do heavy lifting or use her hands.

She loves computers, especially since they allow her to write so easily with her pointer stick.

You start by using some assessment tools with her. Using the Interest Profiler, she discovered that she is a Realistic-Artistic combination, but she isn't sure that the corresponding occupations would suit her.

A cheerful person, Althea loves to tease others and delights in writing about the funny things in life that she sees around her. She knows that she would love to use her writing abilities because it would be something that she could do by herself.

She would prefer to avoid working in damp and noisy conditions, and would prefer a job that would give her lots of different things to do because she gets bored easily.

7. Jim--Uncomfortable With Career Goal

Jim needs some help researching the careers he's interested in. Jim is thinking of becoming a professor. He thinks that he would like the teaching, but is afraid the research would be boring. He loves to see the results of his work and enjoys feeling that he is helping someone in some way.

He would like to work with his hands, but his family is not supportive of this goal. Jim envisions himself working somewhere where he is free from authority. He would like a career that allows him to take charge of the work of others and earn respect for his knowledge.

So far, all he has been able to figure out is that he wants a job where he is challenged at work, and where he can make decisions based on his own knowledge. He also does not want to stand on his feet all day long like he does at his job at a store.