Are you ready to explore the different paths you can take after high school?

This activity will help you learn about each path and its content. You will find facts for comparison and unique facts. When you are done exploring, you will rate each path. You will then select the path you have the most interest in.

GOOD LUCK! Let’s get started.

Directions: Follow the instructions below to get started.

1. Go to www.ruready.nd.gov and log in to your middle school account.
2. Click on the Your Portfolio tab.
3. Click on the module called SCHOOL-2-COLLEGE-2-WORK.
4. Under Directions After High School, click on "Get Started."
5. Read the “How?” and “Why?” at the top of the page.

You are now ready to start exploring the six paths after high school. Read the following pages for directions.
A two-year college is sometimes called a community college. It is a school you enroll in after high school that offers two-year degrees.

Directions: Click on the Two-Year College box. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Two-Year Colleges.

1. List one or two things you learned about Two-Year Colleges?

2. List at least three Two-Year Colleges in ND you might be interested in attending?

3. Is it possible to transfer from a Two-Year College to a Four-Year College?

4. Are you interested in attending a Two-Year College? If not, explain why?

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Two-Year College page and Click Continue. Complete the next five paths by clicking on each path, answering the following questions, and rating each path.

Four-year colleges offer programs leading to bachelor’s degrees in a specific area of study, called a “major.”

Directions: Click on the Four-Year College box. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Four-Year Colleges.

1. List one or two things you learned about Four-Year Colleges?

2. List at least three Four-Year Colleges in ND that you might be interested in attending?

3. How are public schools funded?

4. How are private schools funded?

5. Are you interested in attending a Four-Year College? If not, explain why?

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Four-Year College page and Click Continue. Complete the next four paths by clicking on each path, answering the following questions, and rating each path.
**Career College or Technical Schools** can also be called trade schools. They offer instruction and training in a skill or trade such as auto repair or cosmetology.

**Directions:** Click on the Career College or Technical School. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Career College or Technical School.

1. Are you most likely to have a degree or certificate at the end of a Career College or Technical School?

2. Almost half of the nation’s projected job openings will be in careers requiring education beyond high school, but not a four-year college. True or False

3. How much time do most technical school programs take?

4. List one pro about career colleges or technical schools?

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Career College or Technical Schools page and Click Continue. Complete the next three paths by clicking on each path, answering the following questions, and rating each path.

**Apprenticeships** are a way to get real-world training in a trade or profession. Apprenticeships allow you to earn money while gaining valuable knowledge and experience in a career.

**Directions:** Click on the Apprenticeship box. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Apprenticeship.

1. With apprenticeships, you receive class time and on-the-job training? True or False

2. List five careers with apprenticeships?

3. What makes you a qualified journeyman?

4. Most apprenticeships are between ____ years and ____ years.

5. What is the national average wage for a plumber? ________________

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Apprenticeship page and Click Continue. Complete the next two paths by clicking on each path, answering the following questions, and rating each path.
We all know someone who didn’t go to college and went on to great success. It’s a valid option, although it can be a risky one. You’ll want to think a lot about your long-term goals for your life.

**Directions:** Click on the Straight to Work box. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Straight to Work.

1. What is the difference between a job and a career?

2. On average, people with a high school diploma earn far lower wages over their lifetime. True or False

3. You can try job __________________ for a career in which you are interested to observe a real workplace in action.

4. List three samples of careers that don’t require education after high school.

5. What is the national average wage for the following careers?
   a. Carpet Installers _____________
   b. Retail Salesperson _____________
   c. Messenger/Courier _____________

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Straight to Work page and Click Continue. Complete the last path by clicking on each path, answering the following questions, and rating each path.

The **Military** is a broad field. There are several branches of services; Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and many different positions within those branches.

**Directions:** Click on the Military box. Read the content and facts under each tile on the page. You will need to move your mouse over each of the tiles for the information to scroll up or appear. When you are done, answer the following questions on Military.

1. List the four perks to consider when choosing the Military.

2. If you have questions or want a better understanding of the physical and emotional risk of joining the military, who should you talk to?

3. Commitment - You must agree to a set number of years in the military, and it can be very difficult to get out of that commitment. True or False

4. List five sample careers in the military?

You are now ready to rate this path. Rate this path at the bottom of the Military page. Click Continue.

Well done! You’ve rated all of the directions. You have just one more step to finish. Turn to the next page for directions.
Directions: After completing all six directions, rate the following:

1. Click on “Which one are you the most interested in so far?”
2. Check the “Why did you choose this one over the others?”
3. Click “Save and Continue.”

You have now completed “Directions After High School.”
**Two-Year College**

1. List one or two things you learned about Two-Year Colleges? **Answers will vary**
2. List at least three Two-Year College in ND you might be interested in attending? **Answers will vary**
3. Is it possible to transfer from a Two-Year College to a Four-Year College? **Yes**
4. Are you interested in attending a Two-Year College? If not, explain why? **Answers will vary**

**Four-Year College**

1. List one or two things you learned about Four-Year Colleges? **Answers will vary**
2. List at least three Four-Year Colleges in ND that you might be interested in attending? **Answers will vary**
3. How are public schools funded? **They are funded and controlled by the state**
4. How are private schools funded? **They are funded by tuition, fees, and donations**
5. Are you interested in attending a Four-Year College? If not, explain why? **Answers will vary**

**Career College or Technical College**

1. Are you most likely to have a degree or certificate at the end of a Career College or Technical School? **Certificate**
2. Almost half of the nation’s projected job openings will be in careers requiring education beyond high school, but not a four-year college. True or False **TRUE**
3. How much time does most technical school programs take? **Less than two years**
4. List a pro about career colleges or technical schools? **Training is specific, which can help you find a job**

**Apprenticeship**

1. With apprenticeships, you receive class time and on-the-job training? True or False **TRUE**
2. List five careers with apprenticeships? **Electrician, Carpenter, Plumber, Hairdresser, or Welder**
3. What makes you a qualified journeyman? **Receiving an apprenticeship completion certification**
4. Most apprenticeships are between ____ years and ____ years. **2 years and 5 years**
5. What is the national average wage for a plumber? **$54,620**

**Straight to Work**

1. What is the difference between a job and a career? **Job** pays the bills vs. **Career** has room to grow, pay is more with experience, and chances are you will be passionate about what you are doing
2. On average, people with a high school diploma earn far lower wages over their lifetime. True or False **TRUE**
3. You can try job **shadowing** for a career in which you are interested to observe a real workplace in action.
4. List three samples of careers that don’t require education after high school. **Carpet Installer, Food Counter Worker, Messenger/Courier, Parking Lot Attendant, or Retail Person**
5. What is the national average wage for the following careers?
   a. **Carpet Installers** $41,660
   b. **Retail Salesperson** $25,760
   c. **Messenger/Courier** $28,360

**Military**

1. List the four perks to consider when choosing the Military. **Paid education, some lifelong benefits, cutting-edge job, or leadership skills**
2. If you have questions or want a better understanding of the physical and emotional risk of joining the military, who should you talk to? **Recruiter or Veteran**
3. Commitment - You must agree to a set number of years in the military, and it can be very difficult to get out of that commitment. True or False **TRUE**
4. List five sample careers in the military? **Air Crew Member, Avionics Technician, Surveyor, Infantryman, and Registered Nurse**