Work-Based Learning

Work-Based Learning (WBL) connects students with industry to engage in real world experiences. WBL experiences bridge academic, technical and employability skill development to help students become college, career and life ready. Whether in the earlier grades with career awareness, middle grades with career exploration, or high school with career preparation, WBL helps students explore careers and develop personal and professional goals for life after high school.

Examples of Work-Based Learning Experiences in K-12

NOTE: The example WBL experiences are not limited to specific grade levels. There may be additional WBL opportunities beyond those listed.

Elementary School
Career Awareness:
Building understanding of a broad scope of careers and how school relates to the world of work
Industry tours
Guest speakers
Field trips

Middle School
Career Exploration:
Diving in to learn more specifics about targeted careers
Informational interview
Career Café
Job shadow
Career Cluster Camps at postsecondary institutions

High School
Career Preparation:
Applying learning through experience with industry in a career of interest
Project Based Learning
Volunteer experience
Mentor relationship
Internship
Student-run enterprise
Capstone Experience courses:
• Youth Internship
• Youth Apprenticeship
• Service Learning
• Entrepreneurship Experience
• Senior Experience