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**M2 Lesson 1: Perspectives on the Value of Work**

Core Competencies:

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| * Communication | * Thinking | * Personal & Social |

Big Ideas:

* The value of work in our lives, communities and society can be viewed from diverse perspectives.

Curricular Competencies:

* Question self and others about how individual purposes and passions can support the needs of the local and global community when considering career choices
* Recognize and explore diverse perspectives on how work contributes to our community and society
* Question self and others about the role of family expectations and traditions, and of community needs in career choices

Lesson:

A lot of the focus of CLE 9 is to be open to the perspectives of others in order to inform our own career-life decisions. In today’s lesson, you will look at the unique way that one person decided to best gain the perspectives of others.

For students:

Now that you have taken a look at some perspectives on the value of work, as well as reflecting on your own preferences and skills, this unit will start us on the path of career exploration, how we can view the diverse perspectives from those around us, and how we can use those perspectives to develop our own. Essentially, we are just adding more tools to your toolbelt that you can use on your path, wherever that path may lead you. One day soon you could jump on a plane and go to work in some tropical paradise, or maybe you are on your way to some frozen tundra. Either way, you will have the tools you need to navigate the journey!

In the next few years in your career-life education, you will be introduced to a number of career journeys. The key is to balance those career paths to the expectations and traditions in your family, and those that are needed in your community. Through research, exploration, and guidance from others you will develop your career-life path!

Let's start with learning about Sean Aiken, who, when told to follow his passion when choosing a career, questioned what his passions were. In order to explore and determine his own passions, he developed a project to tackle 52 jobs in 52 weeks.

Discuss as a think pair share how students would go about designing their own career exploration activities if they wanted to go beyond the traditional work experience placements at school. What is the best way to develop passion, interest in jobs, or determine where there is a need in the community?

Watch Sean’s intro video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=CgLlh89YAS8>

Pretty amazing isn't it? The one thing that benefits Sean, as it will you in any work experience you take on, is his willingness to keep an open mind about the job he is in. Never go into an opportunity thinking it might not be right for you. Think about the different things that Sean learned about himself through these jobs, and what he learned about the job market.

Activity:

A lot can be taken from Sean's perspective of passion and work; some of which goes against we have seen in prior units. Download the assignment sheet and use it with Sean's TEDTalk: "What Makes You Come Alive".

Watch Sean’s TEDTalk on his one-week job project:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=1&v=VcMyX5R4dzs

Extension Questions:

Although Sean Aiken's One Week Job Project is exciting and ambitious, we have started to recognize the perspectives that different people have on work, and "finding your passion". Use the following guiding questions to share your opinion on this topic.

* What were Sean's motivations for starting the One Week Job project? What type of lifestyle would you need to have to be able to start such an endeavor? Is this realistic for all of us?
* If you don't have the means after graduation to leave for a year adventure like Sean's, what are some ways that you could still explore different careers and opportunities?
* We have heard varying opinions on whether following passions is good career advice. What is your take? Should passions be considered when choosing a career path, or should we develop opportunities instead? Explain.

Extension:

Sean has both a video and a book available for purchase on his website. Both could be used in the classroom to extend on career awareness.

http://www.oneweekjob.com/store/

Assessment:

