

**M4 Lesson 3: The Changing Career Path**

Core Competencies:

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

Big Ideas:

* Adapting to economic and labour market changes requires flexibility.

Curricular Competencies:

* Use self-assessment and reflection to develop awareness of our strengths, preferences and skills
* 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

In this lesson and assignment, students will consider how career paths have changed, now becoming more common to change career paths several times over the course of their lifetime. When confronted with economic and labour market changes, students will learn the importance of being flexible with their career-life decisions.

For students:

A good way to introduce this topic is to discuss with students if they have ever known someone to change careers, how it happened and why. This can lead to a good discussion on different career paths.

You may have heard this before, but it is becoming more and more uncommon for graduates to have a straight career path. Not so long ago, someone would graduate high school, perhaps complete their post secondary schooling, and then enter a career that they keep until retirement. But things have changed!

According to Statistic Canada's Youth in Transitions survey, less than 7% of 25 year olds had the same career expectations they did as 17 year olds. What could be thought of as indecisiveness years ago is now being attributed to learning. You could possibly change jobs (known as "job churn") several times throughout your career. Despite your chosen career path, we should always remain flexible and be prepared to change jobs and adapt as you go!

In the following assignment, you will learn about the misconception of a straight career path, according to one Macleans article. You will then interview an adult in your life who has experienced and navigated a career change. Let's get started!

Assignment:

Read the following article in order to answer the questions below:

[There's no such thing as a straight career path anymore](https://www.macleans.ca/education/theres-no-such-thing-as-a-straight-career-path-anymore/" \t "_blank)

Answer the following questions in relation to the article, giving your thoughts on the opinions in the article:

1. How is money a big part of student stress?
2. Explain the career planning transition for most students between the ages of 17-25. In your opinion, is this flip-flopping, or is it learning? Explain.
3. What do you think you can do now in order to avoid having a sense of disengagement yourself?
4. According to the article, what is the best way to find a lasting career? Explain what this means to you.
5. In what ways are some high school and post secondary schools "thinking outside the box" and setting a new standard for career learning? What is something you feel could be offered in British Columbia high schools to assist students with their career transition?

Assessment:

(see next page)

