



# SESSION 2



## Career Clusters and Employability Skills

### OVERVIEW

In this session, students will see why it is important to develop a career plan. They will learn what a career cluster is and how the JA JobSpark companies fit into a career cluster. Students will take a deeper dive into the companies that will be attending JA JobSpark. They will do research on companies that fit into their career cluster of interest. Students will also see which employability skills are needed in certain career clusters. They will complete a self-assessment of their own employability skills.

### OBJECTIVES

- Students will see why it is important to develop a career plan.
- Students will be able to recognize career clusters and identify those that match their skills and interests.
- Students will be aware of the career clusters and how the JA JobSpark companies fit into those clusters.
- Students will gain knowledge of employability skills needed in the workplace and assess their own employability skills strengths and weaknesses.

### PREPARATION

1. **Post the student website, if you have not already done so. If you are posting specific links to the e-learning platform for this session, post what you desire.**
2. You can download and print off any materials from the student link, if a hard copy is desired.
3. Watch the video on the student link under session two, “Developing a Career Plan”. A discussion question is provided at the end of the video. Share any other discussion questions that may be applicable for your students.
4. Familiarize yourself with the 8 career clusters and employability skills.
5. Look at the JA JobSpark companies attending the event, become familiar with who is attending and their career cluster area.

### MATERIALS

- Make sure you have posted the website or links in session two to the e-learning platform. All materials and links for students are located in this button.
- Charged computer
- Pen or pencil
- Earbuds
- Zoom platform, Flipgrid, or any other discussion board platform your school uses (if learning remotely).



## INSTRUCTIONAL OUTLINE

This lesson is designed to take approximately 45 minutes.

**Anytime it is mentioned in the lesson to share or have a discussion as a class, this can be done via Zoom, discussion board, Flipgrid, in class, or any other engagement platform. Also, submissions for student work can be your choice; downloaded by a student and sent to a dropbox, printed off and turn in hard copy, emailed, etc. All student materials are in the form of a fillable PDF.**

- When introducing JA JobSpark, explain the key words and concepts
- Tell students they will watch a video, “**Developing a Career Plan**”. There is a discussion question at the end of the video. Facilitate a discussion with this question and add any other applicable questions. You can also post the question from the video on a discussion board, so students can post their responses.
- Show the **8 career clusters and jobs associated with those clusters**. Have students take a moment to look at a cluster that interests them and the jobs contained in that cluster. Students can share a job that interests them and why.
- Show students the **employability skills visual from Indiana Department of Workforce Development**. Give examples of various careers and have the students share the skills they think are needed for that career.
- Have students complete the **employability skills self-assessment**. When this is completed, please instruct the students if you would like them to submit.
- **Employability Skills Role Play (Optional Activity)** – The scenario cards are posted on the student link. Students can act out the scenario in class and create a resolution to the problem, or you can discuss the scenario with the students and have them share a resolution to the problem.
- Have the students click on the link for the companies attending JA JobSpark. Students will research them and complete the questions in the link for **exploring companies and career clusters activity**. A hard copy can be downloaded and printed if desired. Students are instructed to pick 5 companies, each in a different career cluster. Please instruct the students if you want them to submit their answers.

## NOTES

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### JA JobSpark<sup>®</sup> KEYWORDS & CONCEPTS:

**Career Cluster** – A grouping of jobs and industries related to skills and products.

**Career Planning** – An ongoing process that can help you manage your learning and development.

**Goal Setting** – The process of identifying something that you want to accomplish and establishing goals in a time-frame in which to accomplish it.

**Employability Skills** – The essential skills, personal qualities, and values that enable you to thrive in any workplace.

**Self-Assessment** – An assessment or evaluation of oneself or one’s actions and attitudes.