



Teacher Resource Booklet

Lift Off to Higher Education

Part Two

Welcome to Lift Off to Higher Education Part Two. We hope that you and your students will enjoy participating in this program and that you will find it informative and interesting.

The objectives of this program align with the Ministry of Education's K–12 policy and program requirements document, "Creating Pathways to Success: An Education and Career/Life Planning Program for Ontario Schools". (2013) Through the program we hope to support guidance counsellors, classroom teachers, special education teachers and administrators as they present ideas for career planning to their students. The program also offers a Financial Literacy component that supports the Ontario Math curriculum.

The objectives of this program are:

1. Help students and their families understand how a post-secondary education can be achievable.
2. Provide information for students and their families as they make the transition to high school.
3. Analyze differences between post-secondary pathways including apprenticeship, college, university, and direct to work (careers, timing, financial).
4. Determine the roadblocks in choosing a career that is a good "fit".
5. Provide information about available funding for post-secondary education through financial literacy activities.

These objectives are aligned within the framework of the Ministry of Education's four areas of learning:

1. Who am I? (Knowing yourself)
2. What are my opportunities? (Exploring opportunities)
3. Who do I want to become? (Making decisions and setting goals)
4. What is my plan for achieving my goals? (Achieving goals and making transitions)

The lessons are presented in 7 pre-recorded modules and come with a booklet for the students. The booklets can be completed online or can be printed so the students have a hard copy. Some teachers have used a combination of online and printed materials for the students to use as they work through the program.

It is important that teachers be prepared to stop the videos when asked to have discussions with their students and encourage a sharing of ideas. We also encourage you to create lists of information that your students can refer to and look back on as they work through the modules. The facilitators will indicate when you should stop the videos but feel free to stop it at any time if you feel your class would benefit from a discussion about what is being presented.

It is up to you and your staff to choose the best way to share the program with your students. The following ideas have been tried out in schools to meet the individual needs of teachers and students.

1. The guidance teacher presents all lessons in a block.
2. The guidance teacher presents all the lessons but not one right after the other but chooses which lessons support his/her/their program and presents only that lesson or two at a time throughout the year.
3. Classroom teachers present the program to their class either as a block or over the course of the year when it fits into other parts of their program.
4. Classroom teachers present some of the lessons and guidance teacher presents some of the lessons.
5. Not all lessons are presented. Teacher chooses which ones to present and which ones to omit.
6. The math teachers present the Financial Literacy part of the program when it fits into their program. It does not need to be taught when the guidance/classroom teacher is presenting Lift Off but can be done whenever it suits their program.
7. Lift Off is connected to MyBluePrint and the lessons that complement each other are presented when appropriate. Please see the attachment entitled "MyBluePrint" for more on how these two programs align.
8. Teachers join two classes together and team teach the lessons.
9. Language teachers do writing activities that are suggested activities in Lift Off materials to support the students' understanding of postsecondary education.
10. Some activities are done in the online booklets and some activities are done using hard copies.

Lesson One: Introduction and Careers/Jobs

In this lesson students are introduced to the Lift Off program and given an overview of what the program will be about. The facilitators, Bre and Adam, will introduce themselves and tell the students a bit about their pathways. You will be asked to create a list of possible careers/jobs with your students.

Booklet Activity (pg. 2):

Using our list and the one you created students complete the questions.

Lesson Two: Hard and Soft Skills

What are transferable skills, soft skills, and hard skills? This lesson will discuss these skills and students will be asked to think about their Learning Skills that appear on their report card and how they relate to the skills that employers look for when they hire.

Booklet Activity (pg. 3):

1. Connecting learning skills to employment skills.
2. Connecting hard and soft skills to career choices.

Lesson Three: Four Post Secondary Pathways

What are the four post-secondary pathways that are available to you? Examples are given of pathways taken by famous people and how some took direct pathways and others took indirect pathways. We stress that there is no 'right' pathway, that everyone will make their choices. All four pathways are discussed. If you are comfortable, students always enjoy hearing what different jobs their teachers had and the different pathways they took. Take time to share some of your experiences with the class.

Booklet Activity (pg. 4, 5):

Students are asked to follow along as each pathway is introduced.

Lesson Four: Pathway Matching

A brief review of the 4 pathways will be given and students are asked to look back on pages 4 and 5 of their booklets. Students will need access to their devices to complete the job strip matching activity that they are asked to do in this lesson. Students can complete this activity individually or in partners – the choice is yours.

Lesson Five: Financial Literacy Part One

Bursaries, scholarships, OSAP, personal savings – what are these and how can they help me reach my post-secondary goals? These terms are discussed, and a video is shown of some students who have won scholarships. **Be sure to point out the yellow box on page 7 to your students that will direct them to a link that will allow them to hear more from the scholarship winners.**

Booklet Activity (pg. 6, 7):

1. Review the information on page 6
2. How are you planning on funding your education? Suggestions from the scholarship winners.

Lesson Six: Financial Literacy Part Two

This lesson will introduce a game for your students to participate in. Students can complete the game individually, in pairs or groups. Each student will need their booklet, pen/pencil, calculator, and a dice (one per group will do). Bre will lead them through the game step by step.

Booklet Activity (pg. 10):

Game

Lesson Seven: Choosing a Career and Conclusion

A video will start this lesson showing people who have chosen jobs that they are not suited for. What should influence your job/career choices? What activities can you get involved with that will benefit your career pathways.

A review of what they learned throughout the modules will be discussed.

Booklet Activity (pg. 8, 9):

1. Put a check mark as you watch the video
2. Circle the activities that you are or want to be involved in

Make sure you point out the resources given on page 11 and encourage your students to spend some time finding some of the resources. Also encourage them to share their booklets with their families and start talking about post-secondary pathways with family, friends, and relatives.