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# **Careers in The Construction Trades**



Real People. Real Jobs. Real Opportunity.









#### Purpose of READY NWI Video Series and Instructional Guide

The Ready NWI video series offers an opportunity for viewers to look inside a company and find out what their mission, daily operations, and scope of service entails. The videos posted on the Ready NWI webpage have similar, reoccurring advice on how to begin pursuing a career. Employers discuss topics including character traits required for employment, expectation for intern performance, the importance of college education, and what career bests fits you as a potential employee.

#### Goal Attainment for READY NWI Video Series

Learners are to watch the videos and be able participate in discussion while also retaining pertinent information about the company being viewed. Teachers and Guidance Counselors can incorporate videos and curriculum into regular class activities, use during SRT time, or integrate into the Advisory Time.

# Outline for Learners, Parents, Instructors, and Classrooms

*Topics and Discussion Points* (target 9-12th grade students)

# **1** GROUP ACTIVITY

- A. Discussion regarding attributes of successful trades applicants.
- B. Discussion regarding how and why certain attributes are desirable in the trades.

### 2 QUESTIONS FOR VIDEO COMPREHENSION

- A. This section ensures concepts from the video are understood.
- B. Written with pen and paper

### **3** TEACHING SESSION RECAP

- A. This is the individual's specific takeaway
- B. Written with pen and paper





#### Here are several spring-boards for discussion to be used in conjunction with the READY NWI Videos:

- 1. Be Professional
- 2. Honor the employees who hired you
- 3. Try to volunteer at a company
- 4. Ask for a job or new duties at the appropriate time

#### NOTES FOR THE INSTRUCTOR OR FACILITATOR

#### About the construction trades:

Construction trades cover a wide variety of the construction industry. Building any project from start to finish takes a lot of different skilled trades working together to complete it. Innovation in construction technology has resulted in changes to control systems, work practices, and the use of more green construction methods. Career opportunities in the various trades require different experience and education, some require a college degree and others an apprenticeship. This industry is always in need of skilled professionals who are capable of facing the challenges of the future.





# **1** GROUP ACTIVITY

The following section is for discussion with the students after watching the video. Please provide the students with the following definitions, and allow for discussion of any of them as needed.

**Journeyman:** An individual who has completed and is fully educated in a trade or craft, but not yet a master.

Stigma: Negative thoughts or ideas that are associated with something.

### **2** QUESTIONS FOR VIDEO COMPREHENSION

The following section requires a writing utensil and a paper, or a computer. The learner, after viewing the video, should be able to answer these questions to ensure they understood the video.

- 1. What does construction include aside from residential building?
- 2. What are some of the changes that have taken place over the years, making construction trades more safe and desirable careers?
- 3. Name some of the trades within the construction industry.
- 4. What are some of the rewarding aspects about being in the construction trades?
- 5. Why would pride in craftsmanship be an important part of the job?
- 6. Explain what some of the apprenticeship programs entail.
- 7. What are some of the benefits to the apprenticeship programs?
- 8. Why is it important during high school to be actively trying to figure out your career path?

Bonus Question: If there is a school being built, explain how the work of 4 or more different trades might play a part in the construction of that school.





# **3** TEACHING SESSION RECAP

After the group discussion and video comprehension sessions have been completed, each student should have a pen and paper in order to engage in the next process. The goal of the Recap is to integrate ideas spawned during discussion with comprehension questions administered.

- 1. What was your favorite segment of the video?
- 2. What did you learn about this industry and type of work?
- 3. Was there a new idea or concept that you now understand?
- 4. Could you work in this field?
- 5. If you could ask an employee in the construction trades one question, what would it be?

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This instructional guide was developed by the Center of Workforce Innovations. For further information call 219-462-2940 or visit the READY NWI website at www.readynwi.com.