



Middle School Career Exploration Resource



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Career and Technical Education

Career and Technical Education (CTE) provides students with organized educational activities with rigorous academic content and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in current or emerging professions, which may include high-skill, high-wage or in-demand industry sectors or occupations.

Each standard content area is represented within career and technical education.

In Kansas, students complete career awareness activities at the elementary level, career exploration at the middle school level, and career preparation at the high school level.

To begin career exploration activities at the middle school level, connect to your district CTE coordinator or high school CTE teachers. Career exploration activities can be closely tied to CTE pathways offered at the high school level.

Individual Plans of Study (IPS)

Individual Plans of Study (IPS) aligned to student career interests is a Kansas State Board outcome. An IPS is both the product a student develops and a process the school implements to guide students in developing future plans. Students must begin their IPS in middle grades.

For more information, review [Kansas Individual Plan of Study \(IPS\) Digital Reference Guide](#).

Family Engagement

Families play an active role in the IPS process. Parents and guardians also provide their student(s) with career development and guidance information.

For more information on Individual Plans of Study, review [Individual Plans of Study: An Overview for Families](#).

For more information on career opportunities, go to <https://hirepaths.com/>.

Kansas Career Clusters

The Kansas Career Sunflower Model includes seven career fields, 16 career clusters, and 36 career pathways.

The middle school model (pictured below) expands on the seven career fields to include 16 career clusters. Middle School career exploration activities within the 16 career clusters build career success skills that will prepare students for career preparation.

Each standard content area is represented within each career field and cluster.

To view 16 career clusters (middle school model) and 36 career pathways (high school model), go to [Kansas Career Fields, Clusters and Pathways Infographic all levels](#).



Kansas Work-Based Learning Continuum

Work-Based Learning (WBL) includes a continuum of awareness, exploration and preparation that combines an individual's career goals, structured learning and authentic work experiences implemented through a sustained partnership with Kansas business/industry. Work-Based Learning activities with industry or community professionals culminate in a validation and measurement of acquired knowledge, skills and possible employment.

Middle school students should have exposure to career exploration activities and events (job shadow, mock interview, field trip, career mentoring) to explore the 16 career clusters.

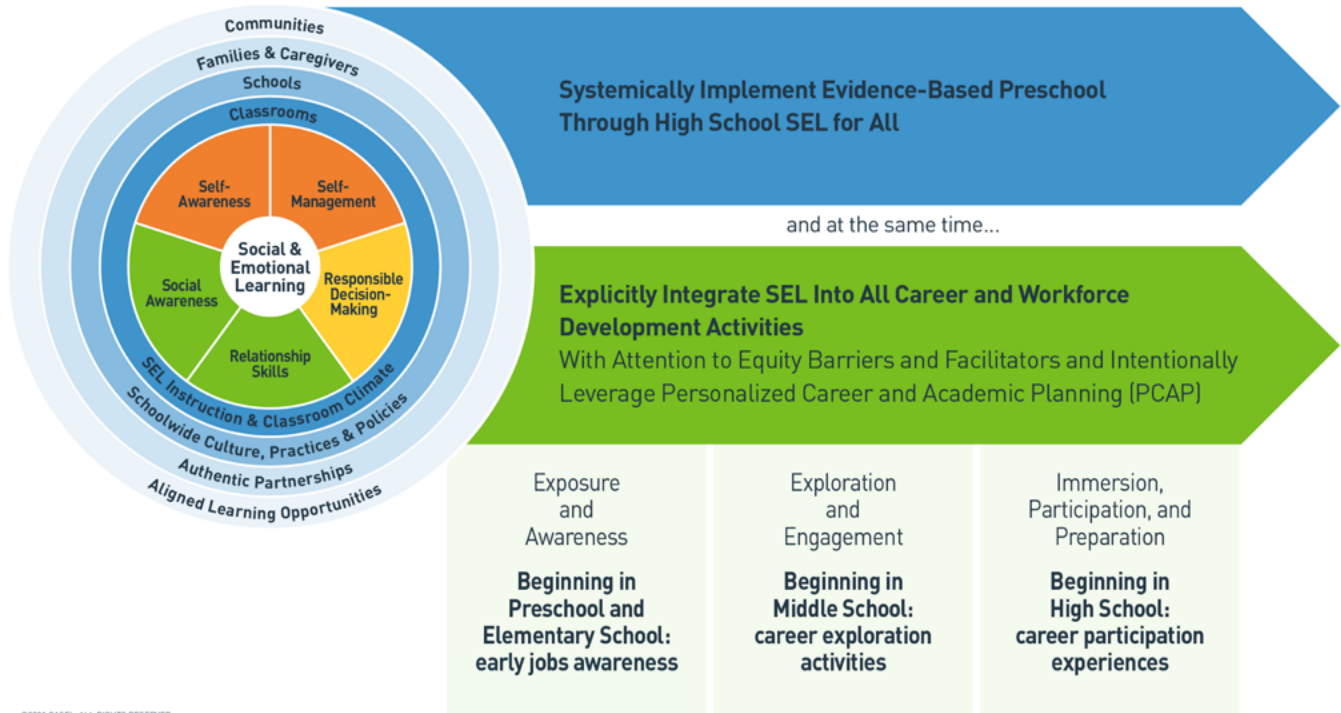
For more information on WBL, review the [Kansas Work-Based Digital Reference Guide](#).



Career Readiness

Career readiness aligns Work-Based Learning, social and emotional learning (Kansas Can Competencies) and Individual Plans of Study with career pathways. Career development activities in middle school provide career exploration in career clusters.

View the [Coalition for Career Development Center \(CCDC\) Condition of Career Readiness in the United States report](#).



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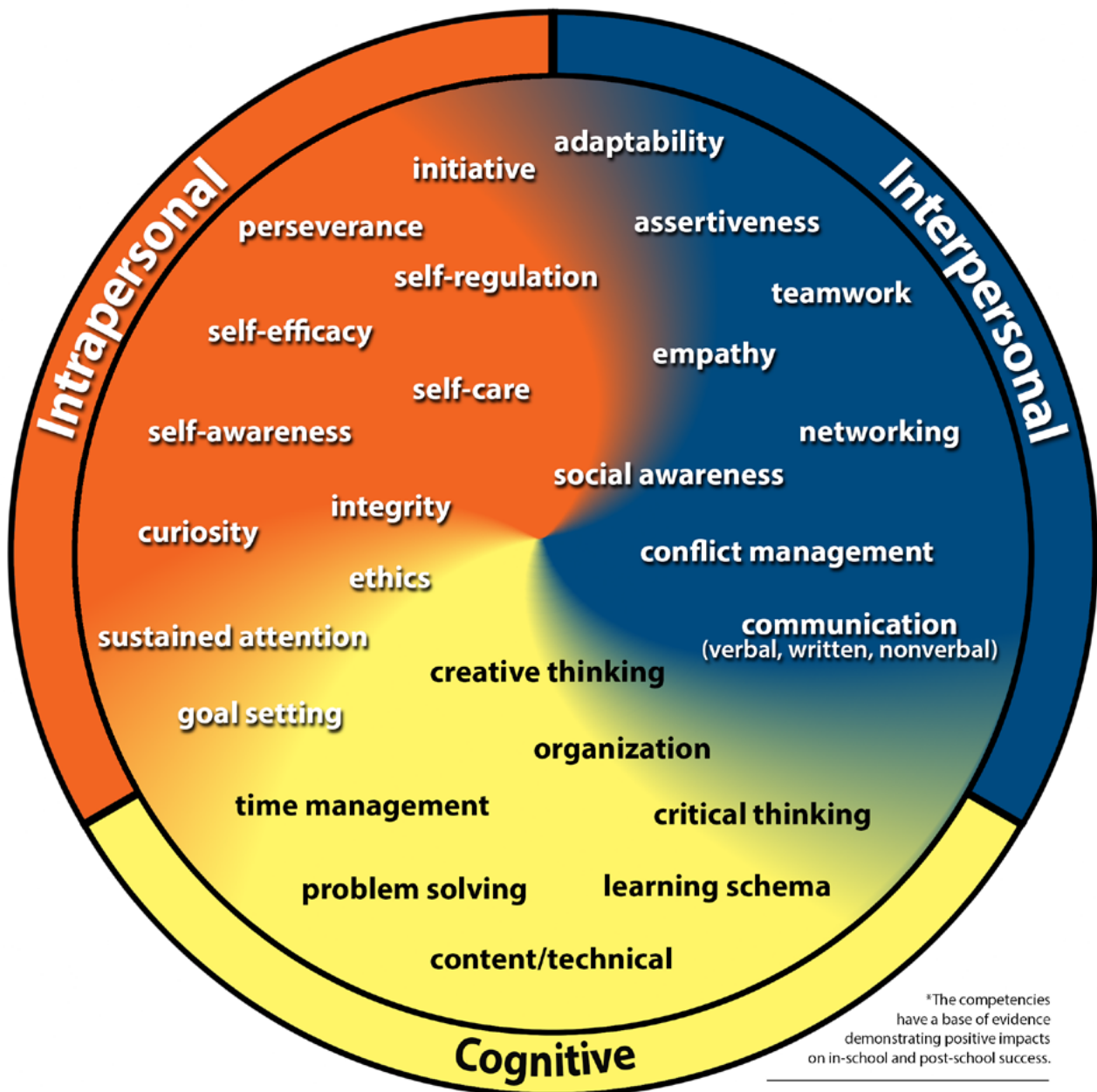
Kansans Can Competency Framework

The College and Career Competency Framework, developed by Drs. Amy Gaumer Erickson and Patricia Noonan at the University of Kansas, includes intrapersonal, interpersonal skills and cognitive competencies integrated into academic coursework. These competencies support skills students need for life after high school.

Kansans Can Competency Sequence Pre-K through 12 include targets students should demonstrate at each grade cluster.

For more information, go to <https://www.cccframework.org/>

College and Career Competency Wheel



*The competencies have a base of evidence demonstrating positive impacts on in-school and post-school success.

© 2013 Amy Gaumer Erickson and Patricia Noonan

School Counseling Standards

The [Kansas Curricular Standards for School Counseling - Career Development Standards](#) guide school counseling programs to help students:

1. Understand the connection between school and the world of work.
2. Plan for and make a successful transition from school to postsecondary education and/or the world of work and from job to job across the lifespan.

Student competencies tied to the Kansas Curricular Standards for School Counseling enable students to move through the curriculum in a personalized way, at their own pace, aligned to their individual plan of study.

For more information, review [Kansas Comprehensive School Counseling Program](#).

K-12 Financial Literacy

Financial literacy is interconnected to career awareness, IPS and school counseling standards. [K-12 National Standards for Personal Financial Education](#) were adopted by the Kansas Board of Education in July 2022. These are model standards and may be adopted by local school districts. Each school district in Kansas is required to have a financial literacy policy in place.

The adopted National Standards for Personal Financial Education is organized around six standards with learning outcomes expected by the end of the fourth, eighth and 12th grades. The topics are:

- I. Earning Income
- II. Spending
- III. Saving
- IV. Investing
- V. Managing Credit
- VI. Managing Risk

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) has created a Financial Literacy webpage to offer support to local school districts concerning personal financial literacy instruction for K-12 schools. Resources include a crosswalk of standards, suggested key vocabulary, educator and parent resources and recordings of workshops.

For more information, go to [Financial Literacy \(ksde.org\)](#).

Career and Technical Student Organizations

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) integrate into career and technical education through innovative programs, business and community partnerships and leadership experiences. There are eight CTSOs in Kansas: Future Farmers of America (FFA), Business Professionals of America (BPA), DECA, Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), HOSA - Future Health Professionals, SkillsUSA and Technology Student Association (TSA).

CTSO chapters can be created at the middle grades to provide career exploration activities and lessons to students.

For more information and state advisors' contact information, go to [KSDE - Career & Technical Student Organizations \(CTSO\)](#).

Career/Occupation Lists

Conversations about careers can be enhanced by connecting career fields with occupations. Below are resources for career/occupation lists.

Advance CTE

<https://careertech.org/career-clusters>

Click on each Career Cluster, then Career Cluster Frame (PDF) to view sample career specialties/occupations. Example: [Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources](#)

Kansas Department of Labor

<https://klic.dol.ks.gov/vosnet/gsipub/documentView.aspx?enc=XR1MJE2Q7Rmn9KjAm0oNxA==>

Click on Kansas High Demand Downloadable Excel Files, then select by Career Cluster statewide or by region. Occupations listed under each cluster meet the above average demand in at least one of three categories. High-demand and high-wage occupations are denoted with a checkbox in the eighth column.

O'Net

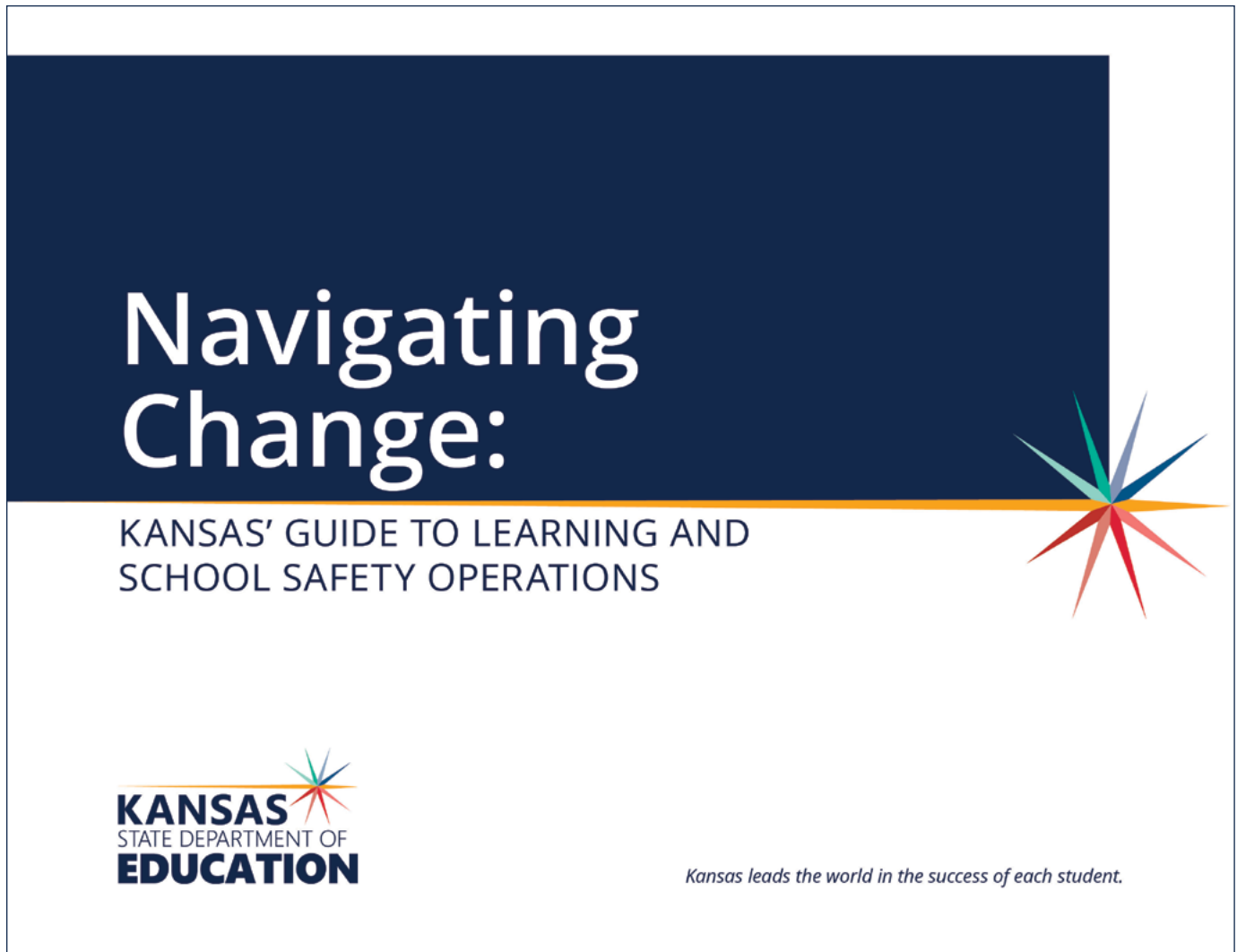
[All Career Clusters Career Cluster \(onetonline.org\)](#)

Scroll through all career clusters or use the dropdown menu to select a cluster. Occupations related to career clusters are listed on the right side of the screen. Click on an occupation to explore occupation-specific information.

Navigating Change: Kansas' Guide to Learning and School Safety Options

Navigating Change was created to support schools during re-entry into the 2020-2021 school year after the COVID-19 pandemic. This guide provides example student competencies that can be used to incorporate career and technical education at the elementary level. *Note: CTE is listed within specials classification.

https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/Communications/Navigating%20Change/Navigating_Change.pdf?ver=2020-07-15-183032-667



72153 Exploration of Career Pathways

72153 Exploration of Career Pathways was created to support career exploration at the middle school level. This is an optional, non-pathway course.

Course Description:

This course will introduce middle school students to career exploration through the study of various career and technical education (CTE) topics and occupations. Students will complete a series of engaging, multi-discipline modules and conduct self-driven exploration aligned to their IPS. Completion of interest inventory surveys will help students identify and evaluate personal goals, priorities, aptitudes and interests with the goal of helping them make informed decisions about their future careers. Student experiences, such as business tours and field trips, job shadowing, career mentorships, simulations and mock interviews, are encouraged.

Scope and Sequence:

Twenty-five multi-discipline modules were created to allow students to demonstrate mastery of their content in a variety of ways driven by their personalized learning interests and goals. Modules include:

- Career Exploration
- Personalized Learning and Student Choice
- Individual Plans of Study (IPS)
- Electronic Exportable Portfolio

Length of Course and Selection of Modules:

This course can be adapted to fit the length of time allowed: six weeks, nine weeks, one semester, one school year, or other variations. Each module is designed for ten days of instruction time. Modules can be adapted to include extension activities or slower pace if needed. Select modules based on student interests, future career goals and CTE pathways offered at the secondary level in your district.

Course materials and modules are publicly housed on Pittsburg State University Kansas Center for CTE (KCCTE) website. Go to <https://library.kccte.pittstate.edu/curriculum/264>.

Example Career Exploration Activities

Job Shadow

- Participate in mock situations
- Shadow employees in a career cluster of interest
- Participate in operation of the workplace

Mock Interviews

- Each student is matched with a professional who interviews him or her as if the student was being interviewed by an employer for a job.
- Mock interviews can also be conducted by peers, teachers, community members or even family members.

Field Trips

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources** - County extension office
- Marketing** - Local businesses
- Finance** - Bank or credit union
- Business Management and Administration** - School district/board office
- Human Services** - Community center
- Hospitality and Tourism** - Event center or hotel
- Law, Public Safety and Security** - Fire department
- Education and Training** - Community college
- Government and Public Administration** - County clerk
- Information Technology** - Virtual Amazon fulfillment center tour
- Arts, AV Technology and Communications** - Museum
- Health and Bio Sciences** - County health department
- Architecture and Construction** - Virtual field trip to construction site
- Engineering** - Water treatment plant
- Manufacturing** - Boeing virtual field trip
- Transportation** - School district transportation department

Career Mentoring

A mentor may visit the classroom, conduct interviews and provide information related to the needs of the business or organization.

The student may also visit the workplace and gain a better understanding of the career in which the mentor is engaged and the related job duties and responsibilities.

* **Appendix - Career exploration tracking tool** can be used to record student experiences at the middle school level.

Educator Resources

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) suggests reviewing each of the following resources to determine value to the local educational system and vetting for quality. This list is not a complete listing, but offers examples for beginning or enhancing career awareness at the middle school level. Some items are for teachers, and some are for students. Some are free, and some have a fee. This list is fluid, so check back routinely to see what has been added.

Free Resources







Career Clusters

-  Hospitality and Tourism
-  Human Services
-  Education and Training
-  Government and Public Administration
-  Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
-  Arts, AV Technology and Communication
-  Information Technology
-  Health and Bio Sciences

-  Architecture and Construction
-  Engineering
-  Manufacturing
-  Transportation
-  Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
-  Business Management and Administration
-  Finance
-  Marketing

Subject Area Connections

-  Language Arts
-  Physical Education/Health
-  Computer Science
-  History, Government and Social Studies
-  Math
-  Science

Career Clusters	Connections	Resource
		<p>Ag Explorer - Career Finder</p> <p>https://agexplorer.com/sites/default/files/career-finder/#/home</p> <p>Students can explore Ag careers by answering a short questionnaire.</p>
		<p>Ag Explorer - Virtual Field Trips</p> <p>https://agexplorer.ffa.org/virtual-field-trips/</p> <p>Go beyond the walls of your classroom and into leading agricultural organizations to gain a firsthand account of the diverse career opportunities within the agricultural industry.</p>
		<p>American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture: Food and Agriculture Science Experiments</p> <p>https://www.agfoundation.org/news/food-and-agriculture-science-experiments</p> <p>Looking for some fun experiments related to food and agriculture? Need a science fair project? We've rounded up some of our favorites from across the internet.</p>

Career Clusters

-  Hospitality and Tourism
-  Human Services
-  Education and Training
-  Government and Public Administration
-  Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
-  Arts, AV Technology and Communication
-  Information Technology
-  Health and Bio Sciences





-  Architecture and Construction
-  Engineering
-  Manufacturing
-  Transportation
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Subject Area Connections

-  Language Arts
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Career Clusters Connections







Resource

Code.org

<https://code.org/>



Code.org is an education innovation nonprofit dedicated to the vision that every student in every school has the opportunity to learn computer science as part of their core K-12 education.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-tools/educator-tools/youth-financial-education/teach/activities/>

These classroom activities can be completed within a single class period. Each activity comes with a teacher guide and supporting student material, so it's easy to implement, whether you're an experienced personal finance teacher, integrating financial literacy into another subject area or supplementing your existing financial education curriculum.

EatPork.org

<http://www.eatpork.org/teach.aspx>

The Kansas Pork Association has made educational resources available for use, and some will be available for download.

Career Clusters

-  Hospitality and Tourism
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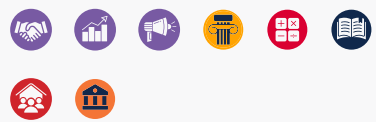
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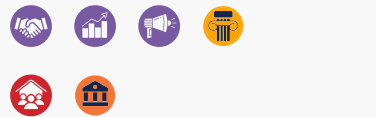
Resource



Econedlink

<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/1>

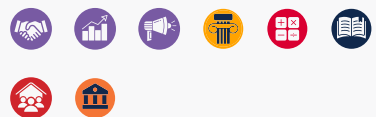
Econedlink provides economic and personal finance resources for K-12. Teacher webinars are found under “Professional Development,” and there are a series of mobile apps that students could use. Most of the resources are free, but some of the mobile apps have small fees. This is brought to you by the Council for Economic Education.



EVERFI

<http://everfi.com/k-12>

EVERFI offers several options for instruction in the area of financial literacy for grades fourth through sixth and ninth through 12th taught through a game format. This resource is offered to schools at no charge due to local funding solicitation by EVERFI (Spanish options).



Family Financial Fun Nights

<https://econedlink.org/family-financial-fun-nights/>

Find all the resources you need to host an event. Available in Spanish! Schools can host the event themselves or collaborate with PTO or community organizations.

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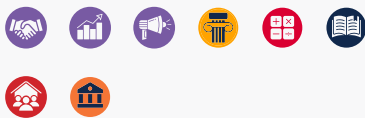
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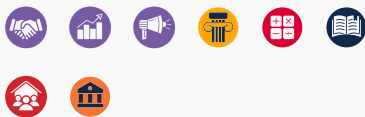
Resource



Federal Reserve Education

<https://www.federalreserveeducation.org/>

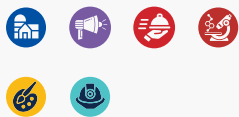
Federal Reserve resources provide various broad educational opportunities for classrooms. These include featured events and resources, like PACED Pretzels Let Them Play. Additionally, the national site connects to the other Federal Reserve sites.



Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

<https://www.kansascityfed.org/>

The Federal Reserve offers free K-12 economic and personal finance resources, along with professional development opportunities for educators. Classroom materials assist with teaching basic economic and consumer education lessons. Workshops and special “educator sessions” are found throughout the year, all free. Click “Resources by Audience” to find resources, lessons, activities and games available for elementary, middle and high school.



From the Land of Kansas

<https://www.fromthelandofkansas.com/>

From the Land of Kansas is a trademark program designed to promote and celebrate agricultural experiences and products grown, raised or produced in Kansas.



Girls who Code

<https://girlswhocode.com/programs/clubs-program>

Girls who Code is a free club opportunity within school districts, libraries and after-school programs for students to explore coding.

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Career Clusters Connections



Resource

Hands on Banking

<http://www.handsonbanking.org/en/>

Hands on Banking offers lesson plans, courses and online lessons for students grades fourth through college, as well as instructor guides (under “Resources”). This is free and supported as a public service by Wells Fargo Bank.

Hands on Banking: Middle School

<https://youth.handsonbanking.org/grades/middle-school-course/>

Money is fun to get and spend. Learn how to start saving and how to boost your earning power. You'll get information and tools to get started toward your personal money goals and dreams. Get started learning about money by taking the courses below. When you finish, take the assessment to check your knowledge to earn your Hands on Banking® certificate.

All

HirePaths

<https://hirepaths.com/>

HirePaths offers Kansas-based resources to explore careers with students of all ages, including kid-friendly videos about cool careers; real success stories about young Kansans in high-demand jobs; career-related field trips, books, games and activities; and industry information to assist with exploring careers and postsecondary opportunities. Educators are invited to sign up at <https://hirepaths.com/for-educators> to receive monthly emails with resources to use in the classroom or send home to parents.

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Career Clusters Connections**Resource****Home Baking Association**

<http://www.homebaking.org/>

Home Baking is a nonprofit alliance of farm, ingredient and baking tools and equipment companies existing to serve educators teaching food and baking literacy.

Baking Education

<https://www.homebaking.org/baking-education/>

Educational resources with connections to literacy, sciences, math, art and social sciences. Toolkits for pre-K to second grade and third through sixth grade.

Baking with Friends

<https://www.homebaking.org/baking-with-friends/>

Free downloadable teaching resources from the book "Baking with Friends." Includes Thrill of Skill guide to age-appropriate baking tasks, Ten Tips for Baking with Children and a Baking Certificate. Sample page downloads and sample recipes from the book are also available.

Baking Food Safety

<https://www.homebaking.org/baking-food-safety/>

Food Safety lessons include portable kitchen lessons that can be done in any classroom.

Spanish Resources

<https://www.homebaking.org/spanish-language/>

Spanish resources for Baking Food Safety and Baking with Friends teaching guides.

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Resource



Home Baking Association Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/user/homebaking>

Baking videos to use as demonstrations, support lessons or for fun brain breaks.

Book and Bake

<https://www.homebaking.org/book-and-bake/>

Book and Bake Lesson guides span a range of elementary to junior high. Lessons include connections to literacy, history, government, and social studies, agriculture, food science, art and math.

Glossary

<https://www.homebaking.org/glossary/>

A baking glossary of terms, techniques and links that is a helpful tool for students and teachers.

Home Baking Association Newsletter

<https://www.homebaking.org/newsletter/>

The Home Baking Association educator newsletter is packed with fresh, tried-and-true or new resources.



Hour of Code

<https://hourofcode.com/us/learn>

Hour of Code offers one-hour tutorials on coding for all ages in multiple languages.

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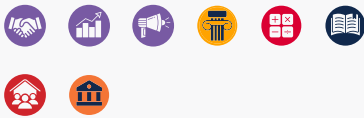
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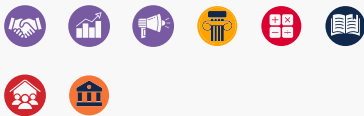
Resource



Jump\$tart

<https://www.jumpstart.org/what-we-do/support-financial-education/clearinghouse/>

Jump\$tart is a coalition of diverse financial education stakeholders who work together to educate and prepare our nation's youth for lifelong financial success. The Jump\$tart Clearinghouse is an online resource for educators, parents, students and others to find effective financial education resources from various sources. K-12 resources include games, lesson plans and classroom activities as well as professional development for teachers. Resources are juried to ensure they are high-quality and educationally sound.



Junior Achievement of Kansas

<https://kansas.ja.org/>

Junior Achievement provides programs for K-12 grades which help meet Kansas Curricular Standards for History, Government and Social Studies and Economics units. Junior Achievement's programs in the core content areas of financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship ignite the spark in young people. Our purpose is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy by giving them the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success. Junior Achievement conducts studies of the effectiveness of our programs. Findings prove that JA has a positive impact in a number of critical areas. Learn more at <https://jausa.ja.org/>

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Career Clusters Connections

Resource

 	<p>Kansas Tourism - Kansas Agritourism Program https://www.travelks.com/travel-industry/programs-and-resources/agritourism/</p> <p>Agritourism is a unique experience that combines traditional agriculture with tourism. Tourists enjoy visiting Kansas farms and ranches and participating in the rural lifestyle. These activities provide lifelong memories for tourists and additional revenue for Kansas farmers who host them.</p>
   	<p>Kansas Farm Bureau Education and Outreach https://www.kfb.org/Education</p> <p>Kansas Farm Bureau promotes awareness of agriculture by providing ag education resources for lesson ideas, hands-on activities, handouts and so much more!</p>
 	<p>Kansas Farm Food Connection https://kansasfarmfoodconnection.org/spotlights/virtual-farm-tours-activities-and-lesson-plans</p> <p>Meet the Farmers - virtual farm tours, activities and lesson plans.</p>
   	<p>Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom https://www.ksagclassroom.org/</p> <p>KFAC offers downloadable resources for educators, links to other agriculture-related websites, as well as applications, entry forms and additional information about all of KFAC's activities and programs.</p>

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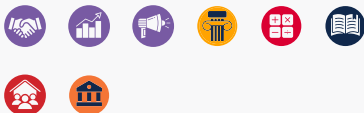
Resource



Kansas Corn STEM

<https://kscorn.com/kansas-corn-stem/>

Kansas Corn invests in the future with its education programs! The innovative Kansas Corn STEM programs provide curriculum, lab materials and training for pre-K-12 teachers, homeschool educators, public librarians and more. The Collegiate Academy and Next Generation Scholarships programs help college students learn the role corn and agriculture can play in their future careers.



Kansas State Department of Education - Financial Literacy Webpage

<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Career-Standards-and-Assessment-Services/Content-Area-F-L/Financial-Literacy>

The Kansas State Department of Education developed this webpage to offer support to local school districts concerning personal financial literacy instruction for K-12 schools. The webpage includes standards, educator and parent resources.



Kansas State Research and Extension

<https://www.ksre.k-state.edu/about/statewide-locations.html>

Kansas State Research and Extension is active in each of the state's 105 counties. Programs and resources vary by county. Contact your local Extension office for program information offered in your area.

Career Clusters

-  Hospitality and Tourism
-  Human Services
-  Education and Training
-  Government and Public Administration
-  Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
-  Arts, AV Technology and Communication
-  Information Technology
-  Health and Bio Sciences










-  Architecture and Construction
-  Engineering
-  Manufacturing
-  Transportation
-  Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
-  Business Management and Administration
-  Finance
-  Marketing

Subject Area Connections

-  Language Arts
-  Physical Education/Health
-  Computer Science
-  History, Government and Social Studies
-  Math
-  Science

Career Clusters Connections

Resource

  	<p>Kansas State Science & Engineering Fair (KSSEF) https://sites.google.com/view/kssef/home</p> <p>The KSSEF competition will involve students in dynamic scientific investigations. Participating students will gain perspective of the world through science and engineering and will develop STEM skills necessary to persist in today's society.</p> <p>Division II - Sixth, seventh and eighth grades.</p>
  	<p>Kansas Wheat https://kswheat.com/consumers/educators</p> <p>Kansas Wheat offers educational activities connected to math and science standards. Fun wheat facts and recipes can easily be added to any classroom. Printed education materials are provided for teachers and students.</p>
  	<p>Mobile Dairy Classroom by SouthWest SouthLand https://www.southwestdairyfarmers.com/pages/mobile-dairy-classroom</p> <p>Mobile Dairy Classroom is a traveling milk parlor, featuring a live cow and presentation.</p>





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Career Clusters Connections	Resource
All	<p>My Next Move https://www.mynextmove.org/</p> <p>My Next Move is an interactive tool for job seekers and students to learn more about their career options. My Next Move has tasks, skills, salary information and more for over 900 different careers. Users can find careers through keyword search; by browsing industries that employ different types of workers; or through the O*NET Interest Profiler, a tool that offers personalized career suggestions based on a person’s interests and level of work experience.</p>
 	<p>National Park Service - Spring Hill Farm and Stock Ranch Virtual Tour https://www.nps.gov/tapr/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm</p> <p>This virtual tour of Spring Hill Farm and Stock Ranch includes written descriptions and video for each area of the property.</p>
All	<p>Nebraska Career Development Lesson Plans https://www.education.ne.gov/nce/careerdevelopment/lesson-plans/</p> <p>Pre-K-12 lesson plans incorporate self-awareness, career exploration, planning and management models with career readiness standards.</p>
 	<p>Nutrients for Life Foundation https://nutrientsforlife.org/for-teachers/</p> <p>Nutrients for Life Foundation provides information and resources to educators about the vital role fertilizers play in feeding our world, including science-based educational materials about the role crop nutrients play in agriculture.</p>

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Career Clusters Connections


Resource



Ruler game

www.rulergame.net

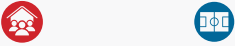
Online games to help students learn how to read a ruler (Imperial and metric).



Scratch

<https://scratch.mit.edu/>

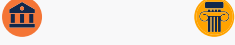
Free coding community for children to create digital stories, games and animations with a simple visual interface.



The Family Dinner Project

www.thefamilydinnerproject.org

The Family Dinner Project works with national and community organizations to support families in coming together for food, fun and conversation about things that matter.



The League of Kansas Municipalities

<https://www.lkm.org/page/YouthCivicEducation>

The League of Kansas Municipalities believes that civics education is the foundation of an active and informed citizenry. The League invites you to explore these free downloads and interactive materials. The League has developed programs for elementary, middle school and high school students.

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Career Clusters Connections

Resource



The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT)

Computer Science in a Box: Unplug your Curriculum

<https://ncwit.org/resource/unplugged/>

Computer Science in a Box: Unplug Your Curriculum introduces fundamental building blocks of computer science — without using computers. Use it with students ages 9 to 14 to teach lessons about how computers work, while addressing critical mathematics and science concepts such as number systems, algorithms and manipulating variables and logic.



Tinkercad

<https://www.tinkercad.com/lessonplans>

Tinkercad is a free web app for 3D design, electronics and coding. Step-by step lessons align to academic standards and build STEM confidence by bringing project based learning to the classroom.

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Career Clusters Connections



Resource

KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness

The KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness team offers various training materials on food and nutrition. The Culinary Quick Bite Video Series highlights Kansas-grown products providing information on food characteristics, nutrition, selection and storage tips, and offers recipes to incorporate into Child Nutrition Program meals. Other training videos offered include nutrition education, kitchen math, recipes, and food safety which can be found in the training portal.

Culinary Quick Bite Video Series

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLd_2hYclboc_QUbcdjw6GfQP7i2Zv2MHM

Child Nutrition and Wellness Training Portal

<https://learning.ksde.org/course/index.php?categoryid=11>

KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness Website:

<https://cnw.ksde.org/>

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Career Clusters Connections**Resource****Kansas Farm to Plate, KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness**

In Kansas, Farm to Plate encompasses all Child Nutrition Programs. Not only can local foods cover the plate, they can be offered throughout the year in any Child Nutrition Program. The Farm to Plate initiative is an effort to connect Child Nutrition Program Sponsors with regional or local farms in order to serve healthy meals using local foods. <https://cnw.ksde.org/f2p/program-overview>

School gardens can make lasting differences in students' lives and help shape the next generation of environmental stewards. School gardens can provide healthy food options for students and teach them about the importance of nutrition. School gardens have been around for over 100 years, and school districts continue to use them today to establish healthy eating habits, as educational tools in the classroom and to promote community inclusion. This fact sheet for farm to school stakeholders provides examples of school gardens that have taken root, and resources to continue growth. **School Gardens: Using Gardens to Grow Healthy Habits in Cafeterias, Classrooms and Communities | Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)**

This resource provides information about food safety issues in school gardens. It addresses topics such as site selection, materials, and water use; chemical and fertilizer use; compost and manure use; growing and harvesting produce; using school garden produce in your school meals program and addressing community donations. **School Gardens: Using Gardens to Grow Healthy Habits in Cafeterias, Classrooms and Communities | Food and Nutrition Service (usda.gov)**

Extension Services provide garden resources and master gardeners can be great assistants for school garden staff. The Extension Master Gardener program is currently supported in 72 of Kansas' 105 counties. Find more information about Master Gardener training and volunteer opportunities in your community.

Kansas County Programs (k-state.edu)

Continued on following page.

Career Clusters

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Career Clusters Connections

Resource



Kansas Farm to Plate, KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness

Continued from previous page.

K-State Garden Hour is hosted by K-State Research and Extension horticulture staff across the state of Kansas. We hope you'll join us on the first Wednesday of each month at noon for some horticultural refreshment and training. Sessions are recorded and posted here after each event. [K-State Garden Hour](#)



USDA Team Nutrition

Team Nutrition provides resources for Child Nutrition Programs and educators. Nutrition Education and marketing materials are free at the website. [About Team Nutrition | Food and Nutrition Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

Team Nutrition Cooks! is a series of cooking-based nutrition activities for out-of-school and afterschool programs, for children around ages 8 to 12 years old. The series includes an instructor guide, activities, videos and handouts. Recipes include ingredients that can be sourced locally. [Team Nutrition Cooks | Food and Nutrition Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

Team Nutrition grant projects in Kansas include recipe challenges, encouraging family and consumer science or culinary educators, students, and school nutrition program professionals to team up with local farmers and producers to develop school meal recipes using local foods. Students experience sourcing local ingredients, purchasing and preparing while collaborating with nutrition program staff and producers.

The local ingredients used for the most recent Kansas projects were aronia berries, sorghum flour and wheat berries. Great recipes were created and will be published in a Team Nutrition cookbook. [Team Nutrition Recipes | Food and Nutrition Service \(usda.gov\)](#)

Fee-Based Resources

KSDE suggests reviewing each of the following to determine value to the local educational system.

Career Clusters

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Career Clusters Connections

Resource



Bee-Bot

<https://www.tts-international.com/bee-bot-programmable-floor-robot/1015268.html>

Bee-Bot is an engaging classroom robot for early age kids to learn STEM with a variety of cross-curricular activities.

Bee-Bot Lesson Ideas for the Classroom

<https://blog.teaching.com.au/5-mathematics-bee-bot-lesson-ideas-for-the-classroom/>



Dash and Dot

<https://www.makewonder.com/>

Dash and Dot robots are a fantastic resource to introduce students to the fundamentals of coding.

Dash/Dot Lesson Ideas for the Classroom

<https://blog.teaching.com.au/dash-and-dot-in-the-classroom/>
















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Career Clusters Connections	Resource
    	<p>LEGO Education https://education.lego.com/en-us/shop/middle/</p> <p>LEGO Education links STEAM instruction to real-world experiences in an intuitive and fun way. Students engage in engineering, data analysis and communication, developing skills like critical thinking and collaboration.</p> <p>LEGO Education Lesson Ideas for the Classroom https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons</p>
    	<p>Ozobot https://ozobot.com/</p> <p>Ozobot makes desk-friendly coding robots that come with infinite ways to create, learn and share.</p> <p>Ozobot Lesson Ideas for the Classroom https://ozobot.com/educate/lessons/</p>
    	<p>Sphero https://sphero.com/collections/coding-robots</p> <p>Sphero programmable robots help kids learn fundamental STEM concepts through play-based learning and educational STEAM activities.</p> <p>Sphero Lesson Ideas for the Classroom https://stemeducationguide.com/classroom-activities-spher</p>

APPENDIX

Career Exploration Inventory Tool

Based on the Kansas Work-Based Learning Continuum, mark which of the Career Exploration experiences are being offered at your middle/junior high schools within each of the 16 Career Clusters.

	Job Shadow	Mock Interview	Field Trips/ Tours	Virtual Field Trips/Tours	Career Mentoring	Number of Experiences per Career Cluster
Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources						
Architecture and Construction						
Arts, A/V and Communication						
Business Management and Administration						
Education and Training						
Engineering						
Finance						
Government and Public Administration						
Health and Bio Sciences						
Hospitality and Tourism						
Human Services						
Information Technology						

	Job Shadow	Mock Interview	Field Trips/ Tours	Virtual Field Trips/Tours	Career Mentoring	Number of Experiences per Career Cluster
Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security						
Manufacturing						
Marketing						
Transportation						

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MISSION

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

VISION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

MOTTO

Kansans Can

SUCCESS DEFINED

A successful Kansas high school graduate has the

- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

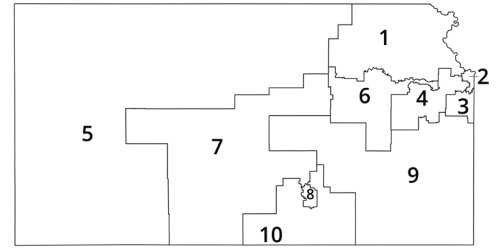
to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

OUTCOMES

- Social-emotional growth
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study
- Civic engagement
- Academically prepared for postsecondary
- High school graduation
- Postsecondary success



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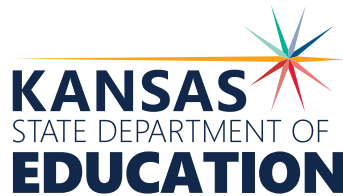


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Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

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