

What Is Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 through 20 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, and citizenship are not criteria for participation.

Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

Explorer posts can specialize in a variety of career skills. Exploring programs are based on five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education, and leadership experience. For more information go to www.learningforlife.org or <http://www.youtube.com/user/learningforlifeusa>.

F
A
C
T
S
H
E
E
T

Everyone Wins With Exploring

Exploring will be one of the best opportunities you offer your organizations, your employees, and the youth of your community.

Organization Benefits

- Impact on the education process of youth
- Team-building attitude within the company
- Opportunity to interpret adult occupational roles for youth
- Preparing young adults for transition from school to work
- Creating a "safe haven" for the healthy development of adolescents
- Developing future responsible and caring adults
- Ensuring that young people see how your business relates to the free-enterprise system
- Helping young adults gain insight into the ethics and ideals of business
- Visible commitment to the welfare of your community



Employee Benefits

- Greater job awareness
- Developing leadership and problem-solving skills
- Re-evaluating ethical and moral values
- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Respect from youth and community
- Identification as appropriate adult role models
- Enhancing communication, planning, and program development skills
- Greater commitment to service
- Developing interpersonal skills used in the workplace and elsewhere



Youth Benefits

- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Career information; insight into future vocation
- Positive alternative to negative youth activities, such as drug abuse and involvement with gangs
- Sense of acceptance and belonging to the "right" group
- Safe environment for adult like activities
- Opportunities to participate in practical, real, and meaningful hands-on experiences
- New career and personal skills
- Opportunities to try leadership roles and develop skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Service to others

