



Career Experiments: Brainstorm & Execute

Career Experiments are short-term, low risk activities that expose you to a career skill or area you're considering for your future. This worksheet will help you define and select motivating, insightful Career Experiment options. You'll then develop a plan for execution, and analyze your results.

Step 1: Specific Career Goals You're Considering

To articulate and prioritize your career goals, please review the CareerWow! videos focusing on Strengths & Talents, Vision & Values, Passions & Interests, Creating Career Options (Modules 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

1.

2.

Step 2: Key Skill Gaps Required for Success with Career Goals Listed Above

Consider the career goals you've listed above. Ask yourself, "What skills are required to succeed with these goals, that I don't already possess?" If you're not clear on skills needed, complete CareerWow! Module 6.

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Step 3: Ideas / Plans for Career Experiments

Looking at the Key Skill Gaps you noted above, brainstorm several career experiment ideas that will expose you to those skills, and help you build your experience in those areas. Ideas: A field trip / job shadow to observe someone using that skill; Reading a book, taking a short class, conducting an online tutorial to expose you to that skill; Executing a short, self-designed practice project.

- **If you need to get permission to execute the experiment, say something like,** "I'm investigating future career options for myself, and I'd like to get some hands-on exposure to X (name skill area). One idea I have is that I could Y (name career experiment). Would that be okay with you? Or do you have another idea that would help me achieve that goal?"

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Step 4: Analyze Your Career Experiments

On the back side of this worksheet, make notes about your reaction to the career experiment(s) you've executed...did they increase or reduce your interest in those skill areas? What steps will you take to move forward? Conduct additional career experiments until you uncover areas that increase your interest.