



## QUICK IDEAS FOR TEACHERS

**DiscoverU is an exciting week for students across Seattle and South King County to explore college and career options!** DiscoverU provides an opportunity for us to highlight the importance of education beyond high school and have fun with career exploration.

Below are a few simple ways that teachers can incorporate DiscoverU into their classroom. **Be creative and put college and career exploration in the spotlight!**

- **Decorate your classroom door displaying colleges and career paths in the region (All Grades)**
- **Share your college and career path with students (All Grades)**
- **School teachers and staff wear college or career gear (All Grades)**
  - Young students especially love it when their teachers dress up! Whether that's a business suit you wouldn't normally wear, medical scrubs, or a lab coat. Wearing the outfit a professional might wear in another career is a great conversation starter!
- **Display your own career path in your classroom door or around your classroom, and display the different pathways you took to arrive where you are today (All Grades)**
  - For example, you might add... When I was (age of students you teach) I wanted to be a \_\_\_\_\_. My first job was \_\_\_\_\_. My favorite things about my job are \_\_\_\_\_. If I wasn't a teacher, I'd be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Highlight a career(s) that relates to the subject matter you teach (All Grades)**
  - For example, a math teacher might highlight carpentry, architecture or engineering.
  - Make sure to talk about what kind of education is required to achieve that career.
  - You could feature one career each day of the week, or even the rest of the school year!
- **Facilitate a conversation about an everyday object students use or consume (e.g. smartphone, ice cream, Seahawks football game) and brainstorm the jobs that helped develop, manufacture, sell, distribute and/or maintain that item (All Grades)**
  - Assign a recorder to write down the jobs students list.
  - Reflect on the list and what it means for career opportunities in the future.
- **Discuss how the skills students learn in your class, connect to careers in our region (MS/HS)**
  - For example, written and oral communication, word processing, problem solving, time management, flexibility/adaptability, teamwork and collaboration are all skills employers look for that students use in class throughout the year.
  - You might start the conversation by talking about the skills you need as a teacher, then students can talk about the careers they're interested in and the skills they might need.
  - Have students discuss what they're good at and what skills they'd like to improve upon.
- **Have story time and read a career-related book (Elementary)**
  - Find the "Elementary DiscoverU Book List" at [www.discoveruwa.org](http://www.discoveruwa.org).
- **Have students draw a picture or comic of their future selves (Elementary/MS)**
  - You can select a time frame (beginning of senior year, high school graduation, freshman year of college, college graduation) and even email their pictures to them later!

For additional resources and to sign up for the DiscoverU newsletter, visit our website at [www.discoveruwa.org](http://www.discoveruwa.org)