

Take Our Daughters & Sons to Work Day

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Read

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is a special holiday in America, Canada and Australia. Every year, for the past 23 years, on the fourth Thursday of April parents have taken their children into their workplace. The driving force behind this no-profit educational programme is the desire to show young people all the things they can do in the world of work, regardless of gender or ethnic origin, but also to show them that what their parents do outside the home. The theme for 2015 is #MPOWR Knowledge+Choice=Strength and the 23rd April will see children from all over the States, Canada and Australia commuting into the office with their mother or father. This day dedicated to work is so much more than a Careers Day - children can see with their own eyes what goes on in a real office. It can help them to recognise the importance of education, mark out their own path, and depending on their age, even start to think about CVs, job applications, interviews and getting on the career ladder. The event is considered to be particularly significant for girls, who have long suffered inequality in the workplace and who, with the right knowledge and experience, can start to claim their rightful place in business and services, on a part-time or full-time basis.

2. Match each word to the correct definition

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| a. commuting | 1. A document that details your education, work experience and other skills/ interests. |
| b. CV | 2. usually 8 hours a day, for example 9:00-17:00 |
| c. job application | 3. starting work and gradually improving your position |
| d. interview | 4. the journey to work |
| e. career ladder | 5. a response to a job advertisement |
| f. full-time | 6. usually half a day, or a few days a week |
| g. part-time | 7. a meeting between an employer and someone who would like to work for that person/ company |

3. Look at Jenny's online profile. Choose the best career for her

Hey there! My name's Jenny. I love sports! I go running every day and swimming twice a week. At the weekend I volunteer at my local youth centre and organise football matches for the teenagers. I finish college in July and am not sure what to do next.

- a. Office worker b. Lawyer c. Firefighter

4. Talk to a partner. Ask them questions about their hobbies and interests to find out what job YOU think would be perfect for THEM. You can use these questions to help you.

- a. Do you like working outside or indoors?
- b. Do you like working in a team or on your own?
- c. Do you like using a computer?
- d. Do you like learning languages?
- e. Do you like travelling?
- f. Do you like cooking?

Teaching Notes

1. Lead into this activity by asking students what jobs their parents do, what they would like to do and if they have ever visited their parents at work.
2. a4 b1 c5 d7 e3 f2 g6
3. c. firefighter. Elicit the reasons behind this choice from the students; Jenny is very fit and active with a strong sense of community spirit.