

## VISION STATEMENT

"To provide positive and meaningful real-world career experiences and leadership development opportunities for all teenagers and young adults in their chosen field of interest."

## SCHOLARSHIP

- AFL-CIO Skilled Trades Scholarships

Learn more at [exploring.learningforlife.org/services/resources/scholarships](http://exploring.learningforlife.org/services/resources/scholarships).



# Exploring's 5 Areas of Emphasis

1	<b>Career Opportunities</b>	REAL-WORLD CAREER SKILLS
2	<b>Leadership Experience</b>	LEADERSHIP SKILLS EMPLOYERS CRAVE
3	<b>Life Skills</b>	CONFLICT-RESOLUTION, PROBLEM-SOLVING, RELATIONSHIP SKILLS
4	<b>Citizenship</b>	LEARN DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS
5	<b>Character Education</b>	ETHICAL DECISION MAKING



Learning for Life  
1329 West Walnut Hill Lane  
P.O. Box 152225  
Irving, TX 75015-2225  
972-580-2433  
[www.learningforlife.org/exploring](http://www.learningforlife.org/exploring)



# What is Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are at least 14 (and have completed 8th grade) and not yet 21 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 is all about helping young adults make a more informed decision about future careers and determine if a particular career is the right one for them. Typically, a young adult will either:

- 1) get involved, learn about a career, and decide to pursue it;
- OR 2) learn enough about the career to determine it's not the right fit for them. It's better to learn as a young adult that a career is not for you, than after spending lots of money on an education only to THEN discover you don't like the career!

Exploring leaders volunteer their time to provide real-world career experiences for young adults. Exploring is not about lectures and slide shows – it's about gaining practical experience in a career field. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

## SKILLED TRADES

Skilled Trades Exploring is a hands-on program that exposes participants to many career opportunities.

### Popular Exploring careers include:

- Skin Care Specialists
- Barbers and Hairstylists
- Home Health Aides
- Animal Care and Service Workers
- Landscape Architects
- Automotive Service
- Carpenters
- Pipe Layers, Plumbers and Pipefitters
- Cooks and Food Preparation Workers

Explorers get to experience firsthand what it's like to develop a production schedule for a new car release, look at the schematics of a new building, pick the right construction material based on climate and age of the building, to care for others who cannot take care of themselves, and much more.

### Explorers will:

- Develop work experiences to begin building their résumé
- Make important business contacts with hiring managers
- Understand the importance of teamwork in a professional setting
- Participate in hands-on projects to give them a real feel for whether this career is the right one for them
- Network with professionals who work in these careers daily – who use the latest technology, are aware of emerging trends and know what it takes to get into college for their specific career
- Learn about the educational requirements for a career in Skilled Trades and receive tangible advice on steps they can take now to prepare and position for a successful career in the field of Skilled Trades



Learn More. Experience More. Participate in Exploring.  
View the career webpage for more information.



## Everyone Wins With Exploring!

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

### COMPANY BENEFITS

- Cultivate future employees
- Impact on the education process of youth
- Prepare young adults for transition from school to work
- Develop future responsible and caring adults
- Improve staff teamwork working on common goals outside of normal work
- Visible commitment to the welfare of the community

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- Increased realization that we are ALL responsible for molding today's youth and tomorrow's leaders
- Greater job awareness
- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Enhanced communication, planning, and program development skills
- Increased initiative of employees

### YOUTH BENEFITS

- Practical, real-world career experiences and insight
- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Building of leadership, self-confidence, and problem-solving skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Community service to others

## Testimonials

**“Young women and men can learn about the construction industry by joining an Explorer post.”**

— *DeDe Hughes, Executive Vice President National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC)*

**“We want to help them. If some kids in high school want to see how the construction industry works we can take them under our wing and let them go from there.”**

— *Mike O., owner of Mike's Roofing and Building, Explorer Advisor*

**“The Explorer Post is helpful in determining my daughter's future because she wants to be a Chef.”**

— *Myia W., Explorer Parent*

SKILLED TRADES

