

VELS	Year	Blueprint	MIPs and MIPs Best Practice Framework
Level 6 – Physical, Personal and Social Learning – Civics and Citizenship Strand – Dimension: Community Engagement	9, 10	Phase 2 (B) Learning and Work Exploration 6.2 Understand how work contributes to the community	MIPs Aim: Develop Skills to manage their pathways throughout their working lives MIPs Aim: Develop their knowledge, understanding and experience of opportunities in education, training and employment Best Practice Framework 3: Pathways and Planning Process

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY SCENE

Teachers' notes

Outcome

Identify the businesses, industries and resources in the local community that might provide work and networking opportunities.

Rationale

The local community is a huge resource in which students might be able to obtain work and network.

Students need to be aware of the opportunities available in their local community and the businesses and resources in the vicinity.

Task description

1. Students research the community scene through local newspapers, visiting the local council and interviewing business people. They work in pairs to answer the questionnaire. If they are from a wide catchment area, students can be organised into groups according to their common location.
2. Each student should record his or her answers on the questionnaire.
3. The teacher introduces the term 'networking' and asks students what they think it means.
4. The teacher conducts a group or class discussion of the question 'Why network?' and provides examples of networking.
5. The teacher outlines the requirements of the worksheet 'My networks' and discusses the information required and how it can be obtained. The teacher explains that students can start or add to their networks list through this activity.
6. The teacher facilitates a whole-class discussion on the findings from the questionnaire.

Extension activities and Local Standards

- Invite local business people or proprietors to speak to the class.
- The Local Council should be able to provide information about the community.
- Students undertake the Safe@Work Modules required by the Victorian State Government
- Students ring a particular industry/employer to investigate either the possibility of work experience and/or employment conditions in that workplace.

Suggested resources

- Copies of 'Questionnaire' and 'My networks' worksheets
- Copies of local newspapers and a variety of sources for information on the area such as directories, council publications and tourist promotions
- Telephone directories

Career competencies

This activity links to the Exploring step in <http://myfuture.edu.au>.

The Local Community Scene Worksheet 1: Questionnaire

What do you know about the local work scene?

Many people obtain work near where they live. Some people even create businesses that in turn support other local businesses.

Knowledge of the work opportunities that may become available or can be actively tracked is vital for future part-time or full-time work.

1. Has any local shop opened within the last 12 months? What is it?

2. Has any local shop closed within the last 12 months? What was it and why do you think it closed?

3. Are there any local businesses that would offer Apprenticeships and/or Traineeships?

4. Where is the nearest TAFE college?

5. Is there an occupation in your local area that would require safety clothing to be worn?

6. Can you name three types of work in your local area which require uniforms to be worn?

7. Name three jobs or occupations in your local area would require previous experience?

8. Is there an occupation in your local area that, by law, requires a qualification?

9. Where is the local centre that could help you find work?

10. Is there a local business that might disappear in the next 20 years? Why might it disappear?

11. Is there an occupation in your area that did not exist when you were born? What is it and why?

12. Which local business employs the greatest number of people? How many people are employed?

13. Are there any tourist or visitor information centres in your area? What type?

14. Is there a local business linked with water in any way? What service does it provide?

15. Which businesses in your area involve shift work? Why?

16. Is there a building firm that advertises in your local paper?

17. Name three local workplaces where you know one of the workers.

18. Name an occupation in your local area that requires accuracy.

19. Is there a Defence Forces establishment in your local area? If there is, where is it?

20. Is your area known for any traditional or handcrafted products? What kinds?

21. Where is the nearest industrial estate?

22. List the types of businesses that operate in the industrial estate.

23. Where is the nearest real estate office?

24. Does anyone in your area employ holiday or seasonal workers?

25. Which businesses require knowledge of the latest technology and computing skills?

26. Which businesses offer part-time work out-of-school hours?

The local community scene Worksheet 2: My networks

You are about to create your own list of networks. Complete the table below of people you have contacted through your research project and/or people you have met in the past. Add why they might be important contacts for you in the future.

Name	Organisation and address	Contact number	Important because ...