

4-H ON THE JOB: A CAREER TOUR

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Abstract

- Results from a College and Career Readiness survey of over 150,000 high school aged youth, conducted by YouthTruth, found that 45 percent of students feel good about their ideas of College and Career Readiness. However, what about the other 55 percent? Many youth feel they are not prepared for the road following high school, but one underlying issue may be simply a lack of exposure to the opportunities available.
- College and Career Readiness has been a hot topic for a number of years as many local school systems are taking pride in providing opportunities to better prepare youth for their future. Floyd County 4-H recently partnered with local youth and government agencies to provide a tour of some of the unsung heroes of the career world.



First Stop Water Treatment & Waste Facility

- This hour-long tour highlighted the process of physical treatment for grease and trash removal.
- The removal process includes filtering through the use of screens, biological treatment through the use of live bacteria and chemical treatment where chemicals are added to disinfect and kill harmful pathogens. At the conclusion of the treatment process the water is finally returned to the river.
- Career opportunities such as field operators, lab technicians and management roles we identified.

Stop Number Two Public Animal Welfare Services

- Participants were given a facilities tour that included animal intake, quarantine, the surgery center, grooming and enrichment.
- While on the tour career opportunities and educational requirements were introduced for careers like veterinarians, veterinary technicians, animal control officers, intake staff and animal groomers.



Stop Number Three Richard B. Russell Regional Airport

- Youth were provided information regarding jobs and duties of airport employees as well as a visit to the Georgia Northwestern Aviation Maintenance Training Center.
- The Aviation Maintenance program is intended to provide students with an introduction to the occupational area of aviation maintenance as currently required by the Federal Aviation Administration. This training center provides hands-on learning for students in numerous maintenance areas that include Aviation Mathematics, Maintenance Regulations, Electricity/Electronics, Physics, Airframe Structure and Finishes.
- Some of the airport career opportunities would include areas such as finance, security, maintenance, lease agreements and collecting hangar fees, to sales of fuel.



Summary

- Through this one-day tour participants were exposed to over twelve career possibilities.
- The job decision process can be stressful for young people, but being able to witness careers in action can aid them in making positive career decisions for their future.

Results

- 100% of participants identified that 4-H has helped them identify potential career paths
- 100% of participants identified there are certain key components of selecting a career (location, salary, passion and the ability to improve the lives of others)
- 88% of participants reported following this tour they have a better idea of what they will do following high school

