

ENGINEERING &
TECHNOLOGY
Exploring



LEARNING  FOR LIFE

www.learning-for-life.org

What Is Exploring?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 to 20 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or citizenship is not criteria for participation.

Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.



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

- Impact on the education process of youth
- Team-building attitude within the company
- Opportunity to interpret adult occupational roles for youth
- Preparing young adults for transition from school to work
- Creating a "safe haven" for the healthy development of adolescents
- Developing future responsible and caring adults
- Ensuring that young people see how your business relates to the free-enterprise system
- Helping young adults gain insight into the ethics and ideals of business
- Visible commitment to the welfare of your community

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

- Greater job awareness
- Developing leadership and problem-solving skills
- Re-evaluating ethical and moral values



- Opportunity for greater community involvement
- Respect from youth and community
- Identification as appropriate adult role models
- Enhancing communication, planning, and program development skills
- Greater commitment to service
- Developing interpersonal skills used in the workplace and elsewhere



YOUTH BENEFITS

- Stimulated interest in continual education
- Career information; insight into future vocation
- Positive alternative to negative youth activities, such as drug abuse and involvement with gangs
- Sense of acceptance and belonging to the "right" group
- Safe environment for adultlike activities
- Opportunities to participate in practical, real, and meaningful hands-on experiences
- New career and personal skills
- Opportunities to try leadership roles and develop skills
- Cooperative relationship between adults and youth
- Service to others



Exploring's Five Areas of Emphasis



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Developing potential contacts that may broaden employment options
- Boosting self-confidence and experiencing success at school and work



SERVICE LEARNING

- Encouraging the skill and desire to help others
- Gaining a keen respect for the basic rights of others



LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Developing leadership skills to fulfill our responsibilities in society
- Providing exposure to different leadership traits



LIFE SKILLS

- Developing physical and mental fitness
- Experiencing positive social interaction



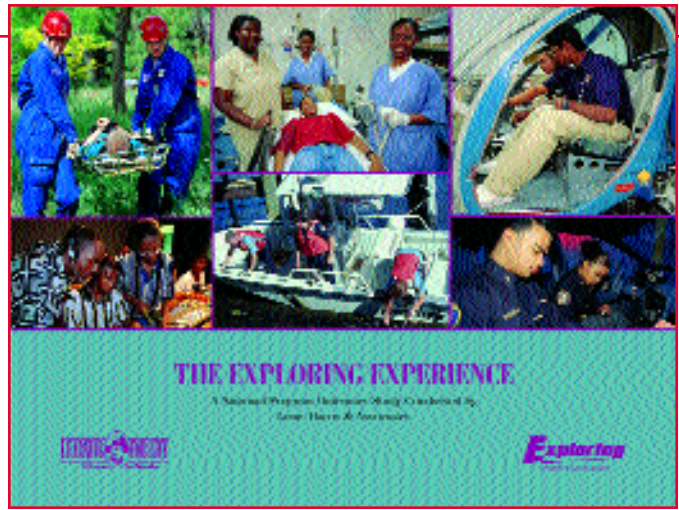
CHARACTER EDUCATION

- Helping make ethical choices
- Fulfilling one's responsibility to society as a whole

EXPLORING WORKS

A recent study of program outcomes, conducted by Harris Interactive, shows that Exploring has a significant impact on the lives of young people by

- Providing elements of healthy youth development
- Teaching strong personal value and character
- Encouraging ethical decision making
- Providing them with a positive sense of self-worth
- Preparing them for the future
- Building confidence
- Providing caring and nurturing relationships with parents, other adults, and peers
- Creating a desire to learn
- Teaching productive/creative use of time
- Teaching social adeptness



MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Learning for Life to serve others by helping to instill core values in young people and in other ways prepare them to make ethical choices throughout their lives so they can achieve their full potential.



“I encourage all young people to join an Exploring post and discover diversity, challenges, and rewards of engineering. I especially encourage engineers to make a difference in their communities by starting Engineering Exploring posts in their companies.”
*Thomas J. Perry, P.E., director, engineering education
American Society of Mechanical Engineers*

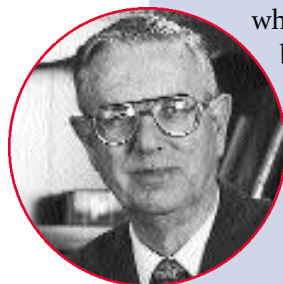
“Exploring offers the opportunity to discover the excitement and challenge of many different career opportunities. Engineering and Technology Exploring is especially exciting because it involves problem solving and making things that improve quality of life.”

*Don Weinert, P.E., chairman
National Exploring Engineering Committee*



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“Having practiced engineering for more than 50 years, I am well aware of what an exciting career engineering can be. Precollege guidance has been one of my interests over the years, and the Engineering Exploring program provides an excellent means for giving guidance to youngsters. The program enables students to gain an overview of the engineering field, which can help them decide if this is the career path they wish to follow. It may save a false start in choosing a lifetime career.”

*Robert L. Nichols, P.E., president—emeritus
Fresse and Nichols Inc.*