

**Roads to Success** is a new program designed to help middle and high school students prepare for their futures. This newsletter will keep you posted on what we're doing in school, and how families can follow through at home.

For more information about Roads to Success, please visit our website: [www.roadstosuccess.org](http://www.roadstosuccess.org).

#### Did you know?

A majority of college students change their major at least once.

Most people change careers four or five times during their work life.

SOURCE:  
[www.quintcareers.com](http://www.quintcareers.com)

## What do you want to be? Ten Tips for Teens

### What do you want to be when you grow up?

Little kids always have an enthusiastic (and often unrealistic!) answer to this question. For older students, not knowing the answer can be stressful. Teens may feel especially torn as they select educational options that narrow their choices. Here are tips to share with your teen as he figures out his future.

**Know yourself.** Look for career possibilities in the things you're good at and enjoy doing.

**Investigate anything that looks interesting.** Use [RUReadyND.com](http://RUReadyND.com) to explore and discover new careers.

**Compare TV and movie portrayals to the real deal.** Find out how doctors, lawyers, police officers, etc., really spend their time.

**Use the careers you know about as a way to jump into new territory.** Career websites often group

related careers into clusters, which makes research easier.



### Know how much education you're willing to invest in.

Will you be comfortable spending four more years in school to be a teacher or an architect? Even more to be a doctor or a lawyer? Or would you prefer less time in school?

### Find out what jobs will be available when you graduate.

You don't have to pick an "in-demand" job, but it's helpful to know where the work will be, and how much competition you'll face.

**Talk to adults who share your interests.** They can provide helpful advice on good schools, career paths,

and what they like and dislike about their jobs.

**Get out there.** There's no substitute for spending time in the workplace. Look for part-time jobs and internships that will let you "try on" a career.

**Explore.** Many students begin college with only a hazy idea of what they want to do when they graduate. Most four-year colleges require you to take courses from a variety of subject areas, so stay attuned to what inspires you. You may discover a new field of interest.

### Know that your first career decision isn't your last.

Many people's ideas about careers change as they gain experience.

## Grade by Grade

Grade 11 provides a final chance to continue in-class career research begun in earlier grades. Students take a career interest inventory and investigate the job responsibilities, education requirements, and career outlook for their first-choice career. They compare their grades and courses taken with courses recommended for their careers. As they finish high school, students who need more information about careers will know where to go for further information and all the right questions to ask.