Empowering students to develop vital skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, self-direction, and persistence.

These models and curriculum can be used to help students develop essential employability skills and enrich school-day learning by:

- Expanding career awareness through authentic experiential learning opportunities
- Enlivening STEM subjects by bringing in real-world and career contexts
- Encouraging students to explore their diverse interests, talents, and options
- Empowering students to develop vital skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, self-direction, and persistence
- Engaging students in making informed choices about high school, college, and career

Get Involved

There are many ways you can partner with us on this exciting project:

- Join our Possible Futures Pilot
- Join an Entrepreneurship in Expanded Learning Training this Spring
- Join our CoLab: Collaborative Service Learning through Art Cohort
- Sign up to join as a volunteer/speaker for one of the pilots

Connect with bethany.thramer@oregonask.org for more information
Possible Futures Curriculum

Designed for 6th through 10th grade students, Possible Futures curriculum helps students set the stage for career connected exploration. Building employability skills and identifying personal strengths as youth discover the possibilities ahead. The series includes lessons focused on exploring skills and interests through a lens to the future.

Growing MySelf with Possible Futures

This 12 lesson unit that introduces youth to growth mindset and opportunities to reflect on their own personal interests.

Learner-centered, research-based, and developmentally appropriate curriculum
The lessons come from an interrelated collection of research-based lessons that prepare youth to gain essential 21st century skills and equips them to chart a path toward success.

Encourages students to explore their diverse interests, talents, and options
Key components of the lessons include identifying personal interests and strengths, and considering potential ways to contribute to their community as youth explore their role in the world.

Empowers students to develop vital skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, self-direction, and persistence
This model and curriculum can be used to help students feel engaged in their own learning pathway and in control of their own career exploration journey.

Expanding career awareness through authentic experiential learning opportunities
Intentional connections with regional CTE pathways and workforce sectors will help youth understand immediate pathways and support local communities.

Contact bethany.thramer@oregonask.org for more information
Summer 2022

Possible Futures Pilot

Interested in utilizing a learner-centered, research-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum this summer that encourages youth to explore their diverse interests and talents while empowering them to develop vital skills like collaboration, critical thinking, and persistence? If you work with 6th-10th grade youth, our Possible Futures Pilot may be for you!

Join in

As a part of the Possible Futures Pilot, you will:

- Participate in curriculum training and coaching with a small group of pilot sites
- Utilize Possible Futures curriculum in your program this summer
- Submit staff feedback on training and implementation to OregonASK
- Have youth complete short post-experience survey

Training, coaching, and curriculum is provided at no cost to pilots, thanks to generous support of the CS Mott Foundation and STEM Next, as part of the Million Girls Moonshot initiative. Stipends available for rural pilots, thanks to support from the Ford Family Foundation.

Sign up today

Register to be a Pilot Site here
Learn more about the curriculum here

Contact bethany.thramer@oregonask.org for more information
Reach beyond program walls and traditional partnerships involving guest speakers, team mentors, field trips, and interviews, for example, introduce students to new diverse adults, integrate student knowledge with real-world contexts, and extend learning.

Entrepreneurial mindset involves seeing new possibilities, applying positivity, creativity, persuasion, motivation and perseverance to solve challenges and create a better world! “Entrepreneurial mindsets and skills are critical to student success, both in and out of the classroom. They are also high-demand, employability skills in today’s workforce.” –National Summer Learning Association

Many students find entrepreneurial learning fun and exciting! It builds on their passions and interests, and links their education with real-world opportunities. Entrepreneurship may be a stand-alone focus for a program or built into existing initiatives such as STEM, arts, leadership, career exploration, or service-learning. As K-12 students are guided to think and act as entrepreneurs, they are set on a thriving trajectory toward social-emotional learning, educational achievement, and employability skill development.

Entrepreneurial programs are also an opportunity for all involved to gain new skills and perspective. Afterschool programs can go “beyond the four walls” by connecting students to the people and resources within their community. This grows and strengthens the entrepreneurship ecosystem as well as impacts individual students progressing along their career connected pathway.

Entrepreneurship is not a one-size-fits-all. Students may cycle through exposure, skill-building, skill development, and full immersion experiences. Be creative and flexible in designing experiences to meet students where they are.

Co-create inclusive pathways and programs with student input, staff who know students, and relevant partners. Focus on facilitating activities and forming partnerships that intentionally lift up women, people of color, and other underrepresented groups.

Building intentional pathways & connections takes time, you must be patient to go fast. Intentional planning and connections with local champions can help create a spark of energy for entrepreneurship in young people. Afterschool and summer programs can be integral partner to enhance youth experience and meet community goals.

Contact bethany.thramer@oregonask.org for more information