



## **Exemplary Programs Series**

# Career Awareness and Exploration: Montana Career Lab

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Montana Career Lab provides career resources for all Montanans from pre-kindergarten to retirement. Curriculum materials are available for teachers and counselors to use in the classroom, for parents to use with their children, and adults planning or changing careers. The hallmark tool is the Montana Career Information System (MCIS) an online career exploration tool. The purpose of the Montana Career Lab is to provide the best Montana-specific information and resources at no cost to help students and adults make informed career decisions.

# Helping Students Make Informed Decisions

### **QUICK FACTS**

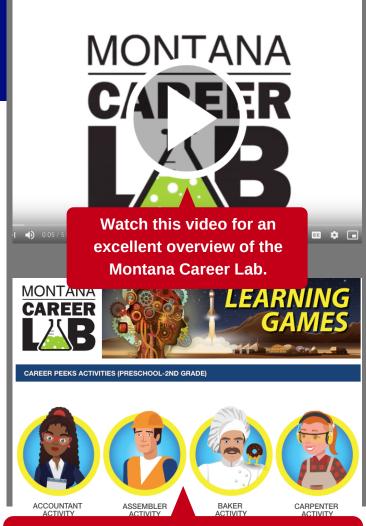
- There are over 96,000 electronic portfolios in MCIS and over 700 sites use the system in their schools or agencies.
- MCIS contains Montana specific labor market information on wages, projected occupational demand and educational and financial aid opportunities.
- MCIS has been operating since 1984 and is a product of the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research & Analysis Bureau, the bureau responsible for collecting labor market information for the State.

### **ELEMENTS**

- The Montana Career Lab provides free curricula and hands-on activities for students from pre-K through high school. All interested educators have to do is reach out!
- The Montana Career Information System (MCIS) is free and available to all Montanans. Once an online portfolio is created, it will continue with the user throughout their life.
- MCIS includes personalized career exploration tools, including skills assessments that identify careers and provide Montana specific labor market information

For more information, please contact:

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The Montana Career Lab is a dynamic resource. Staff regularly create new content to meet the needs of Montanans - young and old! Recently, MCL added "Learning Games" which provide educators with interactive online games for students to explore careers.