



Facilitator Guide

INFORMATIONAL INTERVIEW MATCHING GAME

Referring to the “Informational Interview” handout in the DePaul Career Library, your students will interview each other to get a sense of their partner’s career interests. Then they will use their laptops to find three targets for informational interviews (for their partner) using both the Alumni Sharing Knowledge platform (ASK) and LinkedIn.

The three targets vary by age so that you can explain the benefits of speaking to a wide range of professionals in different stages of their careers.

BONUS!

You can follow-up on this activity with an informational interview reflection assignment found on the next sheet.

NOTE: In order to search on the ASK platform your students will have to login and create a profile in advance. For LinkedIn, students will have to create an account/profile in advance as well. Students can use the “LinkedIn Basics” handout for basic guidance on how to craft a profile. If students don't have a LinkedIn account, they can use Handshake—which now allows students to message “peers”.



Bonus Activity

INTERVIEW REFLECTION EXERCISE

The goal of this assignment is to reflect on the experience through a personal lens that considers your future objectives, profession/career of choice, areas for professional growth, and existing skill sets. Use the following prompts as a guide:

- **Identify and describe the person you interviewed, including name, title, organization, and why you chose this person (this section should take no more than a paragraph).**
- **What did you find most interesting or surprising about this person's career path or professional field?**
- **In what ways can you envision following a path similar to that of the person you interviewed? What would you do differently?**
- **What did you learn about best strategies for breaking into your field of choice?**
- **What skills do you need to develop further and what specific actions would you take to do so?**
- **Did this experience change the ways you perceive your immediate future?**

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In this activity, you will be identifying three possible targets for a peer to informational interview.

Matcher _____ *Matchee* _____

1 Interview your partner and jot down their answers to these questions:

What is your current major?

What is one internship you might seek in the next year or so?

Write one headline that might describe your accomplishments 30 years from now.

2 Using the ASK platform and LinkedIn, find three possible informational interview targets for your partner using these parameters. At least one must be from each LinkedIn and ASK. Briefly explain why you chose each one.

TARGET #1

Name:

Current Employer:

Explanation:

- *Graduated within the last 5 years*
- *Has the same major or minor*
- *Is working on one of the industries or roles preferred*

Write one question your partner should ask this interviewee:

TARGET #2

Name:

Internship Employer:

Explanation:

- *Has interned in a related role or industry in the last 2 years*
- *Is a current student or recent graduate*

Write one question your partner should ask this interviewee:

TARGET #3

Name:

Current Employer:

Explanation:

- *Has worked in their industry for at least 15 years*
- *Is working on one of the industries or roles preferred*

Write one question your partner should ask this interviewee:

BONUS!

For anyone in your search who did not fit these parameters, but would be a good target to add to the list.

Name:

Current Employer:

Explanation:

Write one question your partner should ask this interviewee: