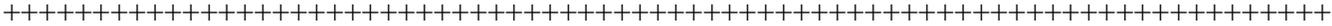




ccTheRealGame

Classroom experiential learning ccTheRealGame

ccTheRealGame brings the real world into the classroom, where students learn by role-playing careers and working together to build better communities. ccTheRealGame engages students' imaginations, it brings what's real right into the classroom where students learn by doing, role-playing, imagining and working together to build adult lives and communities. They learn by experiencing what it's like to be an adult with real responsibilities that must be managed. They learn that good character really matters. And they have fun along the way. Students use role-playing exercises to portray adult characters living in diverse work and community settings, who are faced with real world situations. To help their characters succeed, students must learn how to use all of the 21st century work readiness and employability skills employers are seeking in new hires. These skills are vital to their own growth and development. ccTheRealGame teaches students financial literacy skills by role-playing adult characters dealing with real life financial challenges. They experience the feeling of having bills to pay and not enough money. And they feel the real satisfaction of working hard to earn enough to buy the things their adult character wants and needs to be happy.



GO WEST

Career Trek expands programming



Analyzing crime scenes, designing websites, mapping waterways – it's all in a day's work for the people taking part in Career Trek's Westman Project.

Since Career Trek expanded in 2009 and set up shop in Brandon and the surrounding area, a new group of rural youth are getting a chance to explore dozens of careers.

Having started as a pilot project, programming in Westman is now running on a regular basis. The region west of Winnipeg was a perfect fit, says Curriculum Development Coordinator Elena. "Career Trek was looking to grow and there were area school divisions eager to try it. We would like to see Career Trek continue to extend its reach across the province and beyond the country."

"We eventually want to be everywhere," she says.



More than 100 participants spend their Saturdays from January to March getting hands-on experience in various careers while learning from post-secondary students at Brandon University, Assiniboia College and the Manitoba Emergency Services College.

Teachers and parents have raved about the program since its launch, indicating it's helped build confidence in students and provided them with a unique opportunity. "Feedback from participants, families, and staff has been positive," Elena says.

One of the reasons could be because kids not only learn about different careers but they get a chance to really experience them. As police officers they undertake proper arrest techniques; as international commodity officers they learn to import and export; as bio-anthropologists they analyze human and animal bones to detect gender; and as nurses they practice bedside manner.

Their imaginations kick into overdrive when participants put on their entrepreneurial hat, building a business based on an inspiration item they pull from a bucket. On one particular day, a Hawaiian necklace led to the opening of a travel agency and a costume emporium. "The ideas were really great," Elena says. "They were endless."



The Westman Project is funded by:

