

The Party!

An exploration activity for careers for students. Can be used grades 6-12.

Preparation:

- create 6 posters- using 8 1/2 x 11 paper. Create one poster with one of the following letters on it: **R, I, A, S, C, E.**
- create descriptions of each of the letters to go on the back of the appropriate letter. (Use handout "Personality Themes: Short Version for "Party" Activity). Use first column for the descriptions of the letters
- place a letter and its description back to back in a page protector. These will be your props for the activity
- make handouts of "The Party" map for students.
- if you are expanding activity to include group work at the end, copies of the 4 page "Career by Personality Themes" can be made; 1 set for each group.

Class Activity

1. Welcome
2. Ask for 6 volunteers to come to the front of the room; 3 girls/ 3 boys if possible. Can have 12 volunteers if it is a large group. If using 12, have students stand in pairs.
3. Instruct students in audience to prepare to take notes. They will need their notes to be ready for the activity part of the lesson.
4. Hand out the six letters. If students are in pairs, one holds the sign, the other person reads the description on the back. If there are 6 students; each student reads the personality theme on the back of their sign.
5. Once all letters have been read, ask students, "How many of you like to go to parties?" "Do you like to go with friends?" "Do you hang out with people who are like you?" Ask students with signs to spread out along the edges of the room. There needs to be enough room between students for groups to gather.
6. Ask students to take their notes and stand by the letter that most describes their personality. This is their group for the party. Note, discuss, which letter has the most people? The least? Are you with people you expected to be with?
7. Next step; all of the people you are with leave the party, but you want to party on. Go to the letter that describes you next (your #2 choice.) Ask the above questions again. How did the groups change? Which groups are larger now? Smaller? Etc.
8. Have the class pick a third letter to go stand by. Ask the same questions about the mixing of the groups.
9. Have students sit down. Have students with signs turn them in. Hand out the party map of personalities. The activity was conducted just using the beginning letters of the personality themes. Using an overhead or other visual, give the letters their names, and discuss the meaning of R= Realistic, C=Conventional, E=Enterprising, S=Social, A=Artistic, and I=Investigative. Have students draw a triangle on their maps connecting their three personality traits. Students can discuss their results in groups.
10. If time allows, or in another class period, groups can review the 4 page "Careers by Personality Themes" using the codes they created from the party activity.

This activity is based on John Holland's vocational model of careers and majors. If you have questions about this activity, please feel free to email Cyndy at cyndy@mcdonline.com. 559.636.3605