

## Lesson 7

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### Note to teacher:

This lesson is designed to help students explore a career in business and management. Students can also begin to critically assess their skills and education in relation to career requirements. The lesson is intended to help students understand the importance of education in the world beyond the classroom setting.

### Materials Needed:

Copies of the Lesson 7 Worksheet, and Lesson 7 Journal

### Objectives:

1. After hearing a short vignette about a career in business and management, students will participate in a critical thinking discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of the career.
2. The students will identify 5 skills required for their career choice and will list ways they can learn those skills.

### Evaluation:

- The students will list the advantages and disadvantages (pros and cons) of the career from the vignette as a class while the teacher records the responses on the board in two columns. (Suggestion: Ask for one pro or con response from each student.)
- Each student will complete the Lesson 7 Worksheet where they will list 5 skills they do not have for the career, and ways they can gain those skills.

### Instruction:

1. Tell the class that the career vignette today is about a career in business and management. Then read the following:

#### **A day in the life of Janet Chapman**

Janet is the manager for the Granite City Parks and Recreation Department. She arrives at the McParman Recreation Complex at 8:17 am. As she walks to her office, she greets many of the people that work for her- Jeff, the camp director, Marilyn, the Aquatics Director, Cameron, who is staffing the front desk this morning, and her secretary, Marge. After grabbing a cup of coffee, she checks her messages and e-mail and plans her day.

First off this morning is the final budget review for the new swimming pool that is going in across town at the sports center. Then she reviews the comment cards turned in to the box at the main desk. She is pleased to note that her new tennis program for kids has received several positive comments. She makes a note to check with Jeff, the camp director, about the complaint about the counselor at the youth camp.

At 10:45 she leaves the office again and drives down to the city hall to meet with the city planners about the plans for the newest recreation facility- the rock climbing wall and bouldering park. She makes her presentation and fields questions about the facility for over an hour before they agree to develop the park. Feeling successful, Janet drives back to the McParman

Recreation Complex and shares the good news with her staff, who all worked together on the rock climbing park proposal.

When the excitement dies down, Janet slips out to join her 12:30 spinning class downstairs. She finds that when she looks like everyone else who uses the recreation facility, she hears the most honest comments about the things they do well and the improvements that need to be made. She also gets a great workout in the process!

After a quick shower, Janet heads back to her desk to eat her lunch and return phone calls. She sets up three meetings for next week and begins arrangements for a staff picnic next month. Marge brings in the weekly department reports so Janet can look them over before the afternoon department head meeting. Things seem to be running fairly smoothly in all departments, so after some brief troubleshooting, they adjourn the meeting. Janet accompanies Jeff, the camp director, back to his office where they work out plans for the new camp session for children with disabilities.

As Janet leaves Jeff's office, she quickly tours the complex, making sure things are in order. The afternoon softball league is just starting and she makes a mental note to commend the head groundskeeper for keeping the fields looking so nice. On her way through the gym area, she checks on the status of the repairs being made to the floor, then returns to her office. Marge is just on her way home for the day and relays the last of Janet's messages. With a sigh, Janet turns to the phone to return the call of an angry parent. An hour later, after placating the parent and finishing the last of the paperwork, she closes her office door. She stops by the day care center and picks up her son at 5:45 pm and heads for home.

2. Make two columns on the board. Title one "Pro" and the other "Con." As a group, list the good things about Janet's career as City Recreation Manager. Then list the bad things about her job. Use some of the questions from Lesson 10 to get you started if necessary.
3. After the discussion, Hand out Lesson 7 Journal and have the students follow the directions and answer the questions.
4. As students finish the journal assignment, hand out the Lesson 7 Worksheet. The students need to list 5 skills from their career choice that they do not already have (from question number 2 in Worksheet 6). Next to each skill they need to list *at least* one way for them to develop that skill (education, on the job practice, community college classes, workshops, clinics, etc.) Try to get the students to be as specific as possible.