



Virtual Job Shadowing

Virtual Job Shadow is an “All-In-One” career planning platform. It is a program that allows for individual students to explore **college, career, and life opportunities** to help determine what path they want to take. It works well in group classes but also allows for a lot of individualization based on each students’ skill and comprehension level.

Virtual Job Shadowing offers **over 1,000 career videos** with links to educational requirements, post-secondary options, real time links to Indeed, new life skills videos, and pre-made lessons on a variety of topics. The company is locally based in Arden, NC! This means that many of the job shadowing videos are filmed at local businesses such as the Biltmore Estate gift shop.

How is this improving Pre-ETS?

For Pre-ETS staff, the program offers lesson plans, curriculum, and the flexibility to build individualized lessons. Lessons are available on work-place readiness and employability soft skills. Specific categories include problem solving, goal setting, critical thinking, time management, team building, financial literacy, and others.

Flex Lessons

These lessons are a great resource because they include introductions to the topic, videos to help explain the topic, and ways to measure the student’s comprehension of the topic.

Life Skills

These videos allow for further explanation on topics covered within Pre-ETS, but also allow for a visual representation of the topic being covered and many students prefer visual strategies.

A Local Student Success Story

Step 1:

A student expressed an interest in a future career “doing hair and make-up.” The student completed the Interest Assessment in Virtual Job Shadow and learned they would be well-suited for a career where they could be creative and work with people.

Step 2:

The student completed the Career Cluster Interest Survey and learned their interests matched multiple jobs within the Human Services cluster. They watched relevant career and recognized that Cosmetology was a career that matched their interests.

Step 3:

They learned through the Virtual Job Shadow program that Blue Ridge Community College offers different options in their Cosmetology & Esthetics Programs including an Associate’s Degree, a diploma, and certificates. They had the opportunity to tour the Blue Ridge Community College Flat Rock campus with their class, primary teacher, and Pre-ETS staff. They learned where the Cosmetology lab was and are now “very excited” about pursuing this career in the future.