

Learning Styles
6th Grade Career Development Advisement Activity # 1
Teacher as Advisor Program (TAP)
Estimated time: 30-45 minutes

National Career Development Standard/Competency

1. Knowledge of the influence of a positive self-concept
 - Describe personal likes and dislikes
2. Skills to interact with others
 - Demonstrate effective group membership skills
3. Knowledge of the importance of growth and change
 - Describe physiological and psychological factors as they relate to career development
4. Knowledge of the importance of educational achievement to career opportunities
 - Identify how the skills taught in school subjects are used in various occupations
 - Describe how continued learning enhances the ability to achieve goals
 - Describe how aptitudes and abilities relate to broad occupational groups
12. Understanding the process of career planning
 - Describe skills needed in a variety of occupations, including self-employment

Goal:

Students will assess their learning style and how it influences career development.

Objectives:

- Discover personal learning style
- Devise strategies to learn more
- Make the connection between learning styles and career development

Materials:

- 6th Grade Career Development Advisement Activity #1 handouts – **What’s Your Learning Style?, Your Learning Style Results, and Making the Most of It**
- Pen or pencil

Activity:

1. *Greet students:* “Good morning, welcome to advisement. Let’s start with a very basic question: Does what you learn in school influence your future career?” *Allow time for students to discuss the question. Ensure they acknowledge that it does.* “It’s true that **what** you learn in school influences your future career, but did you know that **how** you learn can have an influence as well? That’s what we’re going to explore today: how you learn, or discover your learning style.”
2. *Distribute the handout: **What’s Your Learning Style?**, go over the instructions, answer any questions from the student, and ensure they understand the terms used and the assignment. Allow time for students to complete the assessment.*
3. *Once students have finished, distribute the handout, **Your Learning Style Results**. Go over the information and ensure students understand their results.*
4. *Divide the class into three groups determined by learning style results: visual learners, auditory learners, and kinesthetic learners. Have students devise strategies to learn more,*

based on their learning styles. Allow time for students to complete the assignment. Once students have finished, have them present their results to the class.

5. *Distribute the handout, **Making the Most of It**, go over the instructions, answer any questions from students, ensure they understand the assignment and when it is due. (Recommend two weeks - one may elect to collect the assign or not.)*

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on their participation in the discussion and completion of the handouts.

What's Your Learning Style?
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People learn in different ways. You can discover more about your own personal learning style, or the way you learn, by completing the inventory below. By discovering **HOW** you learn best, you can develop strategies to help you learn **MORE!** Give points to the following items to determine your score: **OFTEN (3), SOMETIMES (2), SELDOM/NEVER (1).**
Total the score for each section.

VISUAL STYLE

- I remember information better if I write it down.
- Looking at the person helps keep me focused.
- I need a quiet place to get my work done.
- When I take a test, I can see the textbook page in my head.
- I need to write down directions.
- Music or background noise distracts my attention.
- I doodle in the margins of my notebook pages.
- I have trouble following lectures.
- I react very strongly to colors.
- TOTAL**

AUDITORY STYLE

- My papers and notebooks always seem messy.
- I do not follow written directions well.
- If I hear something, I will remember it.
- Writing has always been difficult for me.
- I often misread words from the text (them for that, etc.).
- I would rather listen and learn, than read and learn.
- It's hard for me to interpret the body language of others.
- Pages with small print are difficult for me to read.
- My eyes tire quickly, even though my vision check-up is OK.
- TOTAL**

KINESTHETIC/TACTILE STYLE:

- I start a project before reading the directions.
- I hate to sit at a desk for long periods of time.
- I prefer to see something done and then do it myself.
- I use the trial and error approach to problem solving.
- I like to read my textbook while riding an exercise bike.
- I take frequent study breaks.
- I have a difficult time giving step-by-step instructions.
- I enjoy sports and do well at several types of sports.
- I use my hands when describing things.
- TOTAL**

Your Learning Style Results
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A score of 20 or more indicates strength in that area. The learning style with the highest score indicates your most efficient method of information intake. Check the right-most columns for careers that may fit your primary learning style.

Visual Learners:	Visual Learners Should:	Possible Careers for Visual Learners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Need to see it to know it •May have artistic ability •May have trouble following lectures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use graphics to reinforce learning; films, slides, illustrations, diagrams, and doodles •Ask for written directions •Visualize spelling of words or facts to be memorized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Animators •Artists •Barbers •Cartographers •Dental Lab Technicians •Drafters •Fence Erectors •Floral Designers •Forensic Science Technicians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Geologists •Graphic Designers •Hairstylists •Industrial Designers •Manicurists •Meat Cutters •Mining Engineers •Opticians •Stonemasons •Upholsterers

Auditory Learners:	Auditory Learners Should:	Possible Careers for Auditory Learners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Need to hear it to know it •May have difficulty following written directions •May have difficulty with reading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Use tapes for reading and class lecture notes •Learn by interviewing or participating in discussions •Have test questions read aloud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Animal Control Workers •Audio Visual Specialists •Broadcast Technicians •Camera Operators •Court Reporters and Stenographers •Dispatchers •Explosive Technicians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Interpreters and Translators •Judges and Hearing Officers •Lawyers •Musical Instrument Repairers •Musicians •Singers •Speech Pathologists

Tactile Learners	Tactile Learners Should:	Possible Careers for Tactile Learners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Prefer hands-on learning •Often can assemble parts without reading directions •Learn better when physical activity is involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Engage in experiential learning (making models, doing lab work, role-playing) •Use computers to reinforce learning by touch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Brickmasons •Carpenters •Chefs •Electricians •Elementary School Teachers •Farmers •Fashion Designers •Jewelers •Landscapers and Gardeners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Locksmiths •Painters •Physical Therapists •Podiatrists •Seamstresses & Tailors •Surgeons •Surveyors •Watch Repairers

Making the Most of It
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Student name: _____

Advisor: _____

Date: _____ Due Date _____

You have probably noticed that when you try to learn something new, you might prefer to learn by listening to someone talk to you about the information. Or maybe you prefer to read about a concept to learn it or see a demonstration of the concept. Different people learn in different ways and it's helpful to know your preferred learning style.

There's no such thing as a "good" learning style or a "bad" learning style. Success comes with many different learning styles. There is no "right" approach to learning. We all have our own particular way of learning new information. The important thing is to be aware of the nature of your learning style. If you are aware of how your brain best learns, you have a better chance of studying in a way that maximizes your potential.

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

- What is your primary learning style?
- Do you agree with your assessment results? Why or why not?
- How can you use this information in school?
- How could you use this information in a career?
- Which careers from the Possible Careers list do you find appealing? Why?
- What is your dream career?
- What will it take to prepare for your dream career?

