

DISCOVERING YOUR INTERESTS

- **REALISTIC/"DOERS"** like athletes, oceanographers, environmentalists, natural scientists, adventurers, ranchers, & engineers
- **INVESTIGATIVE "THINKERS"** like detectives, explorers, doctors, scientists, government officials, psychologists, researchers
- **ARTISTIC/"CREATORS"** like actors, writers, composers, musicians, fine & graphic artists, & photographers
- **SOCIAL/"HELPERS"** like diplomats, nurses, civil servants, teachers, ministers, counselors, & social activists
- **ENTERPRISING/"PERSUADERS"** like CEO's, coaches, entrepreneurs, publicists, politicians, & talk show hosts
- **CONVENTIONAL/"ORGANIZERS"** like accountants, judges, legislators, mathematicians, database administrators, & business managers

The R-I-A-S-E-C Social

Picture yourself walking into a room in which the above groups of people are conversing. Read the descriptions of each group and list which group you would be drawn to as the first you would like to visit, then list your second choice, and finally your third choice.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

This exercise is based on Dr. John Holland's theory that people and work environments can be loosely classified into six different groups. Thus different people's personalities may find different environments more to their liking. However, while you may have some interests in and similarities to several of the six groups, you may be attracted primarily to two or three areas. These two or three letters grouped together in order of importance would be your "Holland Code." For example, with a code of RCE you would most resemble the REALISTIC type, somewhat resemble the CONVENTIONAL type, and resemble the ENTERPRISING a little less. The types that are not in your code are usually the types you resemble least of all. Most people and most work environments are some combination of two or three of the Holland interest areas.

Exploring Your “Interests”



Realistic: You are a “doer.”

You probably have athletic or mechanical ability and prefer to work with objects, machines, tools, plants, animals, or be outdoors.

Celebrities with Realistic Interests: Thomas Edison, Marion Jones, Jacques Cousteau, Amelia Earhardt, Mark McGwire, Steve and Terry Irwin (the Crocodile Hunters).

Investigative: You are a “thinker.”

You like to observe, learn, investigate, analyze, evaluate, solve problems and find creative solutions. You prefer to work on your own and usually don't like having to persuade other people to accept your ideas.

Celebrities with Investigative Interests: Madame Curie, Albert Einstein, George Washington Carver, Jane Goodall, Sigmund Freud, and Condaleezza Rice.



Artistic: You are a “creator.”

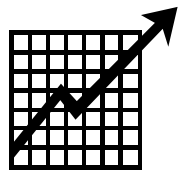
You have artistic, innovating, or intuitive abilities and like to work in unstructured situations using imagination and creativity.

Celebrities with Artistic Interests: Mark Twain, Pablo Picasso, Ansel Adams, Halle Berry, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Social: You are a “helper.”

You like to work with other people to enlighten, inform, help, train, or care for them, and you are skilled with words.

Celebrities with Social Interests: Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King, Eleanor Roosevelt, Mahatma Gandhi, Madeline Albright, and Abraham Lincoln.



Enterprising: You are a “persuader.”

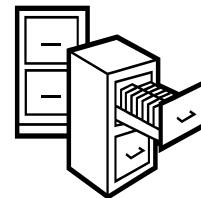
You like to work with people by influencing and persuading, or by leading or managing for organizational goals or economic gain.

Celebrities with Enterprising Interests: Walt Disney, Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates, Harry Truman, and Mary Kate and Ashley Olson.

Conventional: You are an “organizer.”

You feel comfortable working with details in structured situations and like to keep things neat and organized. You like working with forms, charts, and reports. You are self-controlled and identify strongly with status, authority, and power.

Celebrities with Conventional Interests: Sandra Day O'Connor, J.C. Penney, Erin Brockavich, John D. Rockefeller, Judge Judy, and Elaine Chao (D.O.L.).



Using Your High Interests in Career Exploration

Some career exploration programs use the RIASEC code. Select at least your top two scores; and check all possible combinations (examples: RI or IR, SAI or AIS, ISA, etc.) The resulting list will be those careers which most closely match your personal interests. There are many sites on the Internet, which will also sort careers by interests.

Interesting Pathways

Choosing a Career Pathway

Career exploration and decision making involves career awareness activities throughout elementary, middle, and high school, such as career tests, classes on career development, and career research projects and lessons in traditional classes. Other activities include work-based experiences such as job shadowing, mentoring, and internships.

Selecting a career pathway is an important step toward your career goal because you are preparing for that goal with suggested high school coursework and activities. However, much of the basic coursework is the same for each pathway, so you can easily switch to another career path as you adjust your career goals.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Pathway

Are you . . .

- Realistic and/or Investigative?
- Moderately interested in **Conventional** or **Enterprising** Activities?
- Mildly interested in **Artistic** or **Social** Activities?

Do you like to . . .

- Work with plants or animals?
- Work outdoors?
- Share concern for the environment?
- Work with your hands?
- Work with machines?
- Perform scientific projects or experiments?



Careers in Agriculture and Natural Resources include the agri-sciences, environmental sciences, and the natural sciences such as biology, zoology, physics, and chemistry. South Dakota's agricultural and natural surroundings directly and indirectly provide opportunities for the careers in this pathway.

Arts and Communications Pathway

Are you . . .

- Artistic and/or Investigative?
- Moderately interested in **Realistic** or **Social** Activities?
- Mildly interested in **Investigative** or **Conventional** activities?



Do you like to . . .

- Write?
- Perform?
- Debate?
- Draw?
- Paint?
- Dance?
- Play a musical instrument?
- Design work with computers?

Careers in this pathway require creative, imaginative, and innovative skills. In addition to dance, drama, and music, the arts include architecture, interior design, commercial art, sculpture, painting, photography and writing. Careers in communications continue to multiply as the types of communications increase and keep pace with multimedia technologies and their role in today's workforce. This pathway also includes the humanities: history, philosophy, literature, language, etc.

Business, Information Management, and Marketing Pathway

Are You . . .

- **Conventional** and/or **Enterprising**?
- Moderately interested in **Realistic** or **Social** activities?
- Mildly interested in **Investigative** or **Artistic** activities?

Do you like to . . .

- Work indoors?
- Convince people of your point of view?
- Work with numbers?
- Carry out detailed instructions?
- Work in a systematic fashion?
- Talk and work with other people?
- Think logically and make decisions?



Engineering and Industrial Technologies Pathway

Are you...

- Realistic and/or Conventional?
- Moderately interested in Investigative or Enterprising activities?
- Mildly interested in Artistic or Social activities?



Do you like to . . .

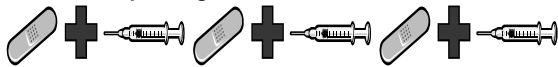
- Solve problems?
- Use facts?
- Figure out how things work?
- Work with your hands?
- Assemble, build or repair things?
- Work with machines?
- Study designs & drawings?
- Invent and research?
- Do math and science?

Engineering and Industrial Technologies careers apply math and science to the creation and building of structures, roads, products and equipment. Engineering careers include activities requiring knowledge of math, physics, or chemistry. Industrial Technologies careers are vital to the efficient functioning of a society in the building, operation, maintenance, and repair of its structures, equipment, and machinery.

Health and Related Services Pathway

Are you...

- Strongly interested in a combination of Realistic, Artistic, Investigative, and/or Social activities?
- Mildly interested in Conventional or Enterprising activities?



Do you like to . . .

- Work with high-tech equipment?
- Provide services to people of all ages and backgrounds?
- Learn new things or acquire information?
- Learn about math and science?
- Conduct research?
- Solve problems?

The Health and Related Services pathway is one of the largest and most varied career areas, including practitioners, technologists, and technicians. The health field continues to be one of the most rapidly expanding industries. Advances in health care technology have created a need for people to communicate with and educate the public.

Social and Human Services Pathway

Are you...

- Social and/or Enterprising or Realistic?
- Moderately interested in Conventional, Artistic, or Investigative activities?



Do you like to...

- Provide services to other people?
- Teach or train people?
- Work with a variety of people?
- Apply knowledge to real-life situations?
- Guide, counsel, or administer people and/or organizations?

The Social and Human Services pathway includes a variety of services to individuals, groups, and communities. Societies and communities evolve quickly. As they become more complex, the need for services increases. Careers in this pathway are in high demand.