

Why I LOVE My Job



Steve Jobs stood in front of the 2005 Stanford graduating class and said, "The only way to do great work is to love what you do." But how does enjoying your work really lead to success in the workplace? Being happy at work and loving what you do can boost productivity and performance. People who enjoy their jobs are often more motivated and engaged.

Step 1 Find a Career

Browse [Career Profiles](#) in Pathful and find one that interests you. It does not have to be in a specific field. It doesn't even need to be your dream job. All that matters is you identify a career that you could see yourself in one day.

Pro tip: Looking for guidance on a career that would be a good fit? Take the [Career Cluster Interest Assessment](#).

Step 2 Research the Career Profile

Take the time to thoroughly research this Career Profile. For this activity, we'd encourage you to check out:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ Virtual Job Shadow video | ☐ Q&A videos |
| ☐ Required education | ☐ Earnings |
| ☐ Additional links | |





Pro tip: Be creative! Do you love how much money you earn? Maybe you love where you work or who you work with! What type of things do you do in this profession that you love?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

Step 4 Watch

- [Follow Your Passion](#)
- [Love A Job Or Hate It: An Internship Can Help You Decide](#)
- [Choose A Career That's A Good Fit For You](#)
- [Find Your Passion And Turn It Into A Fulfilling Career](#)
- [Look At What's In Your Heart When Trying To Choose A Major](#)

Educator Page

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Time

45 to 55 minutes

Grades

9 to 12

Best For

Valentine's Day (February 14), Career Exploration or a lesson on finding a good fit

What Students Will Do

Students research a [Career Profile](#) in Pathful and write a love letter to the job, naming what they could see themselves enjoying about the work. It helps them think about fit, not only pay.

Before You Start

- Print pages 1 and 2 for each student. The educator page is for you only.
- Make sure students can log in to Pathful. Steps 1 and 2 need access to Career Profiles.
- Optional: preview one of the [Employability Skills Videos](#) listed at the end of page 2.

How to Run It

1. (5 to 7 min) Read the opening paragraph and the Steve Jobs quote aloud. Ask: what makes a job something you could enjoy?
2. (12 to 18 min) Steps 1 and 2: students find a Career Profile that interests them (it does not have to be a dream job) and use the checklist to explore its Virtual Job Shadow video, Q&A videos, required education, earnings and additional links.
3. (12 to 18 min) Step 3: students write a love letter to the job in the space provided. Use the pro tip prompts: pay, where the work happens, who they would work with, the tasks they would enjoy.
4. (8 to 12 min) Invite volunteers to read their letters aloud. Sharing is optional.
5. Follow-up: assign one or more of the [Employability Skills Videos](#) under Step 4.

Discussion Prompts

- What is one thing you love about your career that surprised you?
- Which part of the job would be hardest to love? Would you still choose it?
- How is loving a job different from loving the pay?

Support and Extend

- Short on time? Do Steps 1 and 2 in class and assign the love letter as homework.
- Support: provide sentence starters such as "Dear [career], I love that you let me ____." "I could picture myself working ____, with ____." "The part of your work I would enjoy most is ____."
- Extend: students write a break-up letter to a career they ruled out and compare the two.

Sources

Jobs, S. (2005, June 12). "You've got to find what you love," Jobs says. Commencement address, Stanford University. news.stanford.edu

Oswald, A. J., Proto, E., & Sgroi, D. (2015). Happiness and productivity. *Journal of Labor Economics*, 33(4), 789-822. doi.org/10.1086/681096 (experiments found about 12% greater productivity among people made happier).

Gallup. (n.d.). *What is employee engagement, and how do you improve it?* [gallup.com](https://www.gallup.com) (highly engaged teams show higher productivity, profitability and wellbeing).