

Career Day Lesson Plan

Social Workers

Introduction: Social Workers are helping professionals who work in a variety of fields assisting individuals, families and communities. In addition to supporting individual clients, Social Workers aim to improve the “fit” between the client and their environment. Therefore, their change efforts often target broader societal systems and institutions. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2018), this career is anticipated to grow over the next five years. The majority of Social Workers work with children and families or in schools (BLS, 2018).

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this lesson plan, students will be able to:

1. Describe the Social Work profession.
2. List the skills needed to be a social worker.
3. Provide examples of Social Work practice areas.
4. Assess if Social Work could be a potential career fit for themselves.
5. Explain a typical day at work for a social worker.

Materials Needed:

1. Recording of interview with Social Worker
2. Interview discussion questions
3. Writing Utensils

Lesson Length: 75 minutes total (45 minutes-interview, 15 minutes-small group discussion question, 15 minutes-large group discussion and wrap-up)

Instructions:

1. Watch the recording of the interview with the Social Worker (45 minutes)
2. Break into small groups of 3-4 students. Once in the small groups, complete the “Discussion Questions” worksheet. Choose one group member to be the recorder and one group member to be the reporter, who will report back to the larger group. (15 minutes)
3. Students meet back in the larger group. The reporter chooses one item to share with the larger group.
4. The instructor summarizes the lesson and conclusions.

Discussion Questions
Interview with Osvaldo Samboy, MSW

1. What interesting thing did you learn and/or what surprised you the most from what Osvaldo said?

2. After listening to the interview with Osvaldo, do you feel that the Social Work profession could be a good fit for you? Why or why not?

3. If you answered that you were unsure to Question #2, what additional information might you need in order to better respond to this question? Where might you find this information?

4. Based on Osvaldo's answers to the interviewer's questions, what skills do you think are important for Social Workers? Are there activities someone who is interested in Social Work could do now in order to further develop these skills?

5. Social Workers are an integral part of a community. What evidence did Osvaldo provide to support this idea?