

Create Your Own Employment Opportunities

Adapted from the Whose Life tool and worksheet developed by Steve Bishop, Global Lead, Design for Sustainability, IDEO



School To Work
for Secondary School
Students with Disability

ATTRIBUTE	DISCOVERING YOUR CHARACTER
Name	
Age and Life-Stage (eg, 18, year 12 student)	
Prior paid employment and self employment (Past and present paid work eg, retail assistance, lawn mower, baker, pet sitter)	What I liked: What I didn't like:
Hobbies and Interests (Swimmer, cook, animal handler)	
Chores around the house and garden (Making coffee, dusting)	
Things I'd like to try in the future (Canoeing, cooking a dinner party)	
Personality Traits (Patient, Driven, Caring)	
Technology Use (Youtube channels, most used apps, people or content you follow)	

ATTRIBUTE	DISCOVERING YOUR CHARACTER
Use of tools (Drill to assemble furniture)	
Key Values (Things you care about at home, in your community and the world)	
Media Interests (newspaper, magazines, movies, music)	
Family and Community traditions (Birthdays, Xmas, Halloween)	
Regular rituals (Walking, making bed)	
Favourite brands (Nike, Marvel)	
Habits you want to kick (Chocolate)	
Habits you desire (Regular exercise, cleaning)	
A contradiction (Likes interesting people / feels overwhelmed by too many people)	

NEXT STEPS

1. Take three strong attributes from the list above and brainstorm work roles which might make use of these attributes. For example work roles that might involve walking include deliveries, stocking supplies, farm hand, dog walking. This exercise is best done in a group with others who know you well.
2. Brainstorm possible workplaces that might have these roles and people you might know who have worked there.
3. Approach the employer or people you know have worked there to find out more about the workplace and the industry
4. Return to workplaces to propose an opportunity that might suit you and the employer.

Visit <https://imaginemore.org.au/projects-and-grants/school-to-work/> to register for webinars that can help you with further tips to create employment and self employment opportunities. More information email fiona@imaginemore.org.au