

 **SPARK Career Curiosity By Leveraging Literacy**

Adopt A Class kindergarten through second grade students engage in monthly sessions with caring adult mentors to explore a wide variety of careers and industries. One hour, once a month, mentors and students explore careers in construction, public safety, banking, science, and so much more through books, characters, stories, and related activities. In our core mentoring program students work in small groups with mentors to actively engage in hands-on lessons that focus on career concepts and development of life skills such as listening, teamwork, and other critical skills. Additional experiences for kindergarten through second grade students may include an author visit, museum experience, or a theater performance. The Spark literacy-based curriculum is intentionally designed to provide an opportunity for all students in AAC programming to begin to see themselves in diverse careers and lay a foundation for continued career and life skills exploration in our third through eighth grade programs.

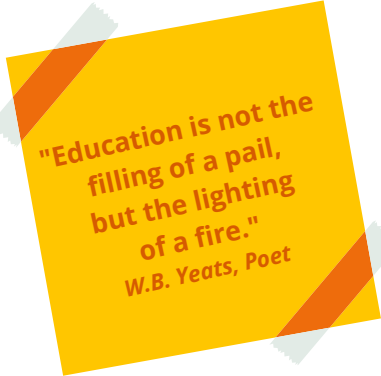


"Reading is a discount ticket to everywhere."
Mary Schmich, Journalist

**IGNITE Interest in STEAM Careers and Beyond**


Adopt A Class third through fifth grade students are introduced to industry specific mentorship through AAC's core program of career and life skills group mentoring. Each AAC classroom is paired with a team of mentors from corporate or civic partners, and together with students they spend one hour, once a month, exploring careers showcased by team members and their organization. From engineering towers to designing commercials, building bridges to developing logistics plans and shipping paths, Adopt A Class students and mentors explore job skills and potential careers through interactive project-based learning. A general focus for our third through fifth grade students is in-demand careers and jobs where AAC students may be underrepresented. This includes the majority of careers related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (S.T.E.A.M.) and where possible each mentor team connects students to these careers in their industry.

Additional AAC experiences for grades third through fifth grade may include the opportunity to explore one of Hamilton County's many parks, Art and Science Museums, or other institutions such as the Cincinnati Observatory.



"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."
W.B. Yeats, Poet

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"Success occurs when opportunity meets preparation."
Zig Ziglar, Author

 **LAUNCH Pathways to Career Success**

Adopt A Class sixth through eighth grade classrooms are paired with industry specific mentor teams that focus on career pathways and job skills as showcased by team members and their organization. Financial literacy, resume building, mock interviews, hands on healthcare exercises, and knowledge about growing industries such as cybersecurity, are a few ways that students explore diverse career paths and understand the skills critical for job success. The broad spectrum of mentors, jobs, and career information assists students in connecting their academics with the world of work and understand how to build on their strengths to have a successful career.

Additional AAC experiences for sixth through eighth grade may include the opportunity to see the campus of two or four-year higher education institutions, speak with representatives of all branches of the military, and experience onsite visits to trade schools. Through these mentor and onsite visits students develop career interests that help them create high school and post-high school career paths.

PROGRAM BY GRADE BAND	FOCUS AREAS FOR MENTORING SESSION	SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIENCES
<p>LAUNCH</p>  <p>8 7 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EXPOSE STUDENTS TO DIVERSE CAREER PATHWAYS • IDENTIFY ACTIONS TO MOVE INTO AND THROUGH POST HIGH SCHOOL PATHWAYS • STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS WITH CARING ADULT MENTORS TO ENSURE STUDENTS SEE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS POST-HIGH SCHOOL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-YEAR HIGHER EDUCATION VISIT • 2-YEAR HIGHER EDUCATION VISIT • INTRODUCTION TO TRADES • INTRODUCTION TO MILITARY SERVICE
<p>IGNITE</p>  <p>5 4 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDENTIFY SELF-INTEREST IN STEAM* CAREERS WHILE UNDERSTANDING THE DIVERSITY OF STEAM PATHWAYS • ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS WITH CARING ADULT MENTORS TO BUILD CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE SUCCESS <p>*SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, & MATHEMATICS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EXPERIENCES WITH SCIENCE • MUSEUM VISITS • NATURE OUTINGS
<p>SPARK</p>  <p>2 1 K</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EXPLORE A WIDE VARIETY OF CAREERS & INDUSTRIES THROUGH LITERACY BASED ACTIVITIES DESIGNED BY AAC • INTRODUCE STUDENTS TO A RANGE OF DIVERSE PEOPLE IN DIVERSE CAREERS • REINFORCE SOCIO-EMOTIONAL COMPETENCIES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARTS EXPERIENCES • AUTHOR VISITS • THEATER EXPERIENCES