Autism Awareness Month

Are you looking for autism awareness activities? Check out these options.

April 1 – Get in the Game at the Coolest Party in Town when you join the Party like it’s 1985 Dash Bash. For more information, go to https://www.autismoklahoma.org.

April 2 – Autism Speaks kicks off their month long campaign, Light It Up Blue, in recognition of autism awareness. Join in the festivities by clicking on this link: http://tinyurl.com/zh9kckf.

April 21 – Autism Conference, sponsored by Future Horizons, will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr. Temple Grandin will speak about the challenges she has faced and offer ideas on how others dealing with autism can improve their quality of life. For more information, go to http://tinyurl.com/lxawhvxx.

April 29 – The 11th Annual A-OK Walk for Autism will raise funds to provide free activities and gear to families affected by autism. Find more information at http://tinyurl.com/hlsot7h.


Oklahoma Autism Support Group Meetings – Several Oklahoma support groups meet monthly to provide guidance in building partnerships with the community as well as support and opportunities to enhance the lives of individuals with autism. To find a support group near you, go to https://www.autismoklahoma.org.

The U.S. Supreme Court has created new standards for a free and appropriate public education. Previously, schools were required to provide students on an IEP with some educational benefit. According to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, Endrew F. v. Douglas County School District, full inclusion in general education classes is the primary standard. If a student is not fully included in the general education classes, schools must offer an individualized education program that is reasonably calculated to enable the student to make progress that is appropriate in light of the student’s circumstances. This will require schools to ensure that the student has challenging objectives and consider whether the student is making enough progress toward the objectives in light of their individual circumstances. For more information, go to http://tinyurl.com/gmve9et.
Study identifies new autism genes. The largest autism study has discovered 18 new gene variations that appear to increase the risk of autism. To read about this study and their findings, visit http://tinyurl.com/hc3j2us.

Does your IEP team use the ACT WorkKeys accommodation list on OK EdPlan? The options available on OK EdPlan have not been approved by ACT WorkKeys and could lead to assessments that are ineligible for scoring. ODCTE is working with OSDE-SES to correct this problem. ACT WorkKeys is updating its accommodations, so all options for ACT WorkKeys accommodations on OK EdPlan will be deleted until ACT WorkKeys has developed a set of accommodations that are approved for use. ACT WorkKeys plans to have all options available in the fall of 2017. Until ACT WorkKeys completes the approved accommodations, all IEP teams should access ACT WorkKeys current list from its website before trying to determine appropriate accommodations for students.

Are you looking for something to warm your heart? Take a look at this video of neighborhood children playing basketball. It is sure to make you smile. http://tinyurl.com/mjenm38

Free smoke alarms and alert equipment is available for Oklahomans with disabilities. The Federal Emergency Management Agency, part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, has awarded a grant to Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation to buy smoke alarms and alert equipment and pay for installation costs, assistance planning a home fire drill and assistance with home safety. To qualify for help, an individual must have one of these documented disabilities: deaf, hard of hearing, blind, low vision or use of a mobility device. For more information, go to https://www.ok.gov/abletech/Fire_Safety/.

Would you like to track specific legislative bills? This link will take you to the Oklahoma Legislature bill status page. From there, you will be able to look up a bill by its number and read it in full. http://www.oklegislature.gov

Do you know someone with a disability who is in need of medical equipment or someone who has equipment that is no longer used? Oklahoma ABLE Tech accepts equipment that is no longer used and provides opportunities for those with disabilities who need equipment to get it through a program called the Oklahoma Equipment Exchange. Check out ABLE Tech’s website at https://www.ok.gov/abletech/.

Events

- The Human Trafficking Summit will be presented by the Human Trafficking Division of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. It is being sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services and includes sessions for students (ages 14-22) and adults. The summit is being presented at four locations for your convenience: Norman, April
10; Lawton, May 3; Oklahoma City, May 8; and Tulsa, May 10. For information about this free training, go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HumanTraffickingSummit.

- April 11 – ABLE Tech’s AT Discovery webinar topic will be “Seating, Positioning, Mobility.” For details, visit http://tinyurl.com/hfs8co7.

- Independent Living & Transition Skills Workshops, presented by the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services, will be April 18 (Self-Advocacy in Relationships: Dining) and May 23 (Financial Self-Advocacy: Grocery Shopping). To register, go to www.tinyurl.com/DSACOAdvocate.


**Resources:**

- Casy Cundiff Outstanding Student Scholarship – Education Services Special Populations, a division of Oklahoma Association for Career & Technology Education, is offering a $500 scholarship to one technology center student with a disability. The deadline for the ESSP Casy Cundiff Outstanding Student Scholarship is April 15. Please ensure that students are aware of the scholarship and help them through the application process. http://tinyurl.com/k6tqd98

- OK Career Guide is an easy online tool available for all Oklahomans to explore career and educational options. This wonderful resource can provide educators with many of the assessment tools necessary to prepare a student’s IEP transition pages, including interest and skills inventories. https://okcareerguide.kuder.com.

**Quote**

“Autism is not a choice. Acceptance is. Imagine if the opposite were true.” Stuart Duncan

**Questions or Comments**

Sharon Baker, M.Ed.  Phone: 405-743-5596
Disabilities Services Specialist  Fax: 405-743-6809
Career & Academic Connections  Email: Sharon.Baker@careertech.ok.gov

Legal information provided by this newsletter is not intended to replace the advice of a technology center’s legal counsel.

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age, disability, or veteran status. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to the ODCTE Compliance Coordinator, 1500 w. 7th Ave. Stillwater, OK 74074, or call 1-800-522-5810 or 405-377-2000.
Career Connections NEW!
Elementary Edition
© 2017 CIMC

CS9013 $27.00 for 10 copies

This publication introduces elementary-aged students to career awareness in a youth-friendly format. The full color magazine includes activities that introduce students to career fields, career-related vocabulary, good work/school habits, and more. Activities include: What are Career Fields?, What Do You Like?, Draw Yourself, Let’s Learn New Words, Career Planning Vocabulary Crossword, Wonderful Word Search, Family Interview, Tree of Careers, Match Me!, Jobs, Skills and Tools, I Spy Good Work Habits, What Do I Do Next?, Look at What You Can Do in the Future, Let’s Review Career Fields, and What I Will Look Like?

Visit our new online catalog at http://store.okcimc.com!
Easy to use • Recommended related products • Fully automated purchasing

Navigating Your Future: A Job Search Guide
(previously titled Through the Jungle)
© 2017 CIMC

CS9003 $8.00 full color

Navigating Your Future replaces the Through the Jungle curriculum. This revised edition features updated content, a new design, current guidance on job search techniques, interviewing via phone and live video, interview attire, and more. Includes samples of cover letters and resumes and forms students can use to prepare their own. It also suggests ways to answer tough questions and how to properly follow up after an interview. Chapter 1 Identifying Places to Look?, Chapter 2 Getting Started, Chapter 3 Creating Your Resume, Chapter 4 Completing Your Application, Chapter 5 Looking Your Best, Chapter 6 Learning Some Basic Tips for Job Interviews, Chapter 7 Using Interview Techniques that Work, Chapter 8 Getting Ready for Tough Questions Chapter 9 Communicating in a Positive Way without Words, Chapter 10 Following Up After the Interview, Chapter 11 Responding to the News
# Career Planning and Preparation Resources

## Career Focus: BMITE Careers
© 2017 CIMC

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<th>ISBN</th>
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<tr>
<td>CS9022</td>
<td>$39.00 for 10 copies</td>
<td>Career Focus BMITE Careers is a new career exploration and preparation guide that is part of the Career Focus series. This full-color magazine combines essential career guidance with web activities and “skill builder” opportunities to help prepare students for college and career opportunities. Articles include: Identifying Possible Careers, What Pays in the Aerospace Industry?, Aerospace Careers You Might Not Have Thought About, Individual Career Plans, Career Clusters and Pathways, Online Tools for Career Planning and Preparation, Planning for College and Career, Finding Job Opportunities, Managing Your Digital Dirt, Strategies for Networking, Career Myths and Realities, CareerTech Champions in Aviation, and much more.</td>
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## Career Success Skills
© 2012 CIMC

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<th>ISBN</th>
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| BS1001 | $32.00         | Career Success Skills helps students develop the skills essential for planning for a career, applying for a job, and succeeding on the job. This full-color curriculum also covers best practices in communication and etiquette. Units include:  
• Finding a Job  
• Communication Skills  
• Etiquette for Every Day  
• Succeeding on the Job |
| BS3001 | $27.00         |                                                                                   |

## Career Exploration Guide
© 2016 CIMC

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<td>CS3205</td>
<td>$98.00 for 10 copies</td>
<td>Revised edition with updated salary information, educational requirements, and information linked to OkCareerGuide. This guide helps students connect what they are learning to careers in the world of work. They can see what careers are found in the various career clusters and how clusters and careers fit into the academic classes they take in school. Activities and an interest inventory help students see the importance of planning and preparing for a career.</td>
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## Employability Guide
© 2014 CIMC

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<td>CS1200</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>This 30-page guide from the CIMC describes eight skills that employers want, why they want those skills, and how job seekers can build and demonstrate each skill. This is a handy and essential resource for anyone preparing for their first job, changing jobs, or hoping to become more successful in their current workplace!</td>
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## Career Focus
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| CS9015 | $12.00 for 10 copies | Career Focus is a career exploration and preparation guide. This 32-page, full-color magazine combines essential guidance with web activities and “skill builder” opportunities to help prepare users for college and the workplace. Topics include:  
• Career clusters and pathways  
• Plans of study  
• Personal selling points  
• Online tools  
• College planning checklists  
• Interview strategies  
• Keys to career success  
Career Focus also provides workplace re-entry strategies for those who have been absent from the workplace for a number of reasons. It is a concise guide to planned success for high school students and adults. |

## Employability Guide
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<td>CS1110</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>“Diversity is the one true thing that we all have in common. Celebrate it every day.” This anonymous quote expresses the purpose of the book Basic Strategies: Meeting Everyone’s Needs - to help parents, teachers, counselors, and students meet the needs of the ever-increasing diversities they will encounter in today’s world. The book includes sections dealing with diversity and disabilities. It also discusses gender equity, harassment, and bullying.</td>
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## Keys to Employability Poster
© 2016 CIMC

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| BS1001 | $1.00 each     | This full-color, 18 x 24-inch poster describes these keys to employability:  
• Customer service attitude  
• Decision-making skills  
• Integrity  
• Initiative  
• Communication skills  
• Leadership  
• Ethical behavior  
• Safety and health habits  
• Maturity  
Four different designs are available. Abstract, Mystery, Workplace, and Yellow |

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**Online Assessments with Study Guides Available!**

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Outside Oklahoma: [www.careertechtesting.com](http://www.careertechtesting.com)