

Real People. Real Jobs. Real Opportunity.









### Purpose of READY NWI Video Series and Instructional Guide

The READY NWI video series offers an opportunity for viewers to look inside a company to discover and learn about their mission, daily operations, and what their scope of service entails. The videos posted on the READY NWI webpage offer advice and guidance on how to begin pursuing each career, while providing information on the" ins and outs" of the company. Employers discuss such topics as character traits required for employment, expectations for intern performance, the importance of a college education, and how to determine what career may be a good fit when looking through the lens of a potential employee.

### Goal Attainment for READY NWI Video Series

Learners are to watch the videos, participating in discussion while retaining pertinent information about the company being viewed.

# Outline for Students, Parents, Instructors, and Classrooms

Topics and Discussion Points (target 9th - 12th grade students)

### 1 GROUP DISCUSSION PROMPT FOR CLASS FACILITATOR

- A. Can be discussed orally, or written in pen and paper.
- B. This portion of the session is very thorough and detailed.

## 2 QUESTIONS FOR VIDEO COMPREHENSION

- A. This section ensures concepts from the video are understood.
- B. Requires pen and paper

### 3 TEACHING SESSION RECAP

- A. This is the student's specific takeaway
- B. Requires pen and paper



## NOTES FOR THE INSTRUCTOR OR FACILITATOR

Here are several spring-boards for discussion to be used in conjunction with the READY NWI Videos:

Be professional Honor the employees who hired you Try to volunteer at a company



### **About the Company:**

Microbac is an independent testing laboratory that provides service in environmental testing, food safety, and analytical chemistry. Employees at Microbac test water, soil, air, and food products. Most Microbac employees have bachelor's degrees. Microbac employees are employed as chemists, biologists, microbiologists, geologists, and engineers. The following prompts are intended to engage learners in advice employees give about how to work for Microbac. Different discernible topics are addressed and real life application should be apparent.





### **I** GROUP DISCUSSION PROMPT FOR CLASS FACILITATOR

These prompts and group activities can be conducted in partners, small groups, or classes. The goal is to address concepts from each video and their real life applications. (note the term 'group activity' is general and can mean partners, small group, or entire class)

Karen, an employee at Microbac, says you should pursue a career that fits your lifestyle. Perhaps, you are not in a position to obtain a job because of age or some other restriction. The following group activities will get you in the mindset to prepare for a future career.

**Group Activity:** personality at work: Employers look for individuals with intriguing personalities and a professional demeanor. What type of personality do you have? Are you shy, outgoing? Funny? A deep thinker? Caring? Supportive? Or have other traits? Where do you feel your personal character and values would fit in as a member of a club, an organization, or job?

**Group Activity:** interests can be a part of your job: What type of interests do you have? If you were to join a club or organization what would it be? Athletics? Theatre? Music? Academic Competitions? Student Government? Other?

**Group Activity:** education and work: Formal education begins in elementary school and can be renewed all the way through post-secondary education. If you could pick subjects in school to study, would it be science, biology, chemistry, physics, English, business? Other – share one?

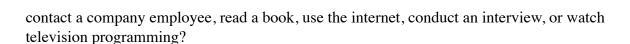
Employees at Microbac say that when looking to the future, you should dream and think about what your career would be like. After viewing this video, you might have some thoughts on the Microbac Company. The following group activities address what your simulated (imagined) job experience would be at Microbac.

**Group Activity:** What do you envision an analytical testing job at Microbac would be like? Would you like to use scientific instruments such as microscopes, a beaker, Petri dish? If you were to find a new discovery, how would you tell your supervisor about your discovery?

**Group Activity:** Imagine you are assigned to give a presentation in front of your co-workers about your test results in the laboratory. How would you prepare your information? Would you use a poster, PowerPoint, or note cards?

**Group Activity:** Microbac hires chemists, microbiologists, geologists, and engineers? What do you think each of these individuals do as a daily routine at Microbac? If you are unsure what the professionals do, how could you find out more information? Would you





Management at Microbac refer to themselves as service people who happen to do analytical science testing. The following group activities will help gauge how you would want to serve others.

**Group Activity:** How do you define the word service? Have you ever offered a service to others? Have you ever been the benefactor of others serving you?

**Group Activity:** What organizations could you volunteer for? Would you volunteer at United Way, a homeless shelter, a donation marathon, a charitable marathon?

**Group Activity:** Employees at Microbac enjoy their job and the fellowship with their co-workers. To them, making money is not a reason to go into a career path. Why is making money not the only quality an employee should have at Microbac? Do you think other companies, besides science based research companies, value service over money?

Management, at Microbac, hires summer interns. If you are of the age to be an intern at Microbac, what qualities would you emulate to succeed at Microbac? The following group activities will help you decide if Microbac would be a good fit for you

**Group Activity:** Karen mentions all possible interns should have strong work ethics, honesty, dependability, imagination, and an entrepreneurial spirit. Do you have any of these traits, skills, or characteristics? Explain how you use them on a daily basis.

**Group Activity:** If you are lacking in any of these, how could you obtain them?

**Group Activity:** Management at Microbac wants interns to be able to make long lasting decisions with impact. Hopefully, the progress made during your internship would be reflected for a significant time in the future. Who would you consult for advice on procedures you would be uncomfortable with?

### 2 QUESTIONS FOR VIDEO COMPREHENSION

The following section requires a writing utensil and a paper, or a computer. The student, after viewing the video, should be able to answer these questions, ensuring they understood the video. The activity is best completed by each student individually, but can also be done as a pair discussion.





- 1. What services do Microbac offer as a company?
- 2. How valuable is a bachelor's degree in getting a job at Microbac?
- 3. What types of college majors do employees at Microbac have?
- 4. What values does Microbac value in an individual looking to be an intern?
- 5. As an intern, will you be able to make long lasting change in the company?

### 3 TEACHING SESSION RECAP

After the group discussion and video comprehension sessions have been completed, each student should have a pen and paper or some other writing method in order to engage in the next process. The goal of the Recap is to integrate ideas spawned during discussion with comprehension questions administered. Work individually then reconvene into Group Activity and discussion.

- 1. What was your favorite segment of the video?
- 2. What did you learn about this genre of work?
- 3. Was there a new idea or concept that you now understand?
- 4. Could you work in this field?
- 5. If you could ask an employee at Microbac one question, what would it be?

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This instructional guide was developed by the Center of Workforce Innovations. For further information call 219-462-2940 or visit the READY NWI website at www.readynwi.com.