

Where is Project Academy focusing on over the next few months:

[direction-project academy-09112017.docx](#)

Area	Comments
Drop-outs, 55+ out-of-work, special classes	More immediate need
On-line	
Detail instruction that students follow versus instructor lead Adding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition • Awards 	Give more ownership to students in setting-up and doing the learning around teams and problem-solving activities
How to get students engaged in this activity in an after-school setting?	
Game based	More engaging
Vocation focus See Pg 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improv • Art/ Drawing • Bicycle • Short programs 	Create a series of simplified design activities that lead to more complex learning.
Get Intern form HS students as a credit activity	Extra credit
Pick the 10 life-skills to focus on	Find picture of needs by company Interview companies
Use social media and videos during the project	
Form competitive teams on social media to work competitively on projects.	



Design a template for Training the facilitators:

- Guidelines for program
- Student focus
 - Diversity
 - Equality
- Engineering mindset
- How
- Type of group
 - Vocation
 - Non-vocation
- List of activities
 - How long
 - Assessment

Examples of different themes or projects: (Details to follow)

Drawing: Designing a problem around creating a special map that leads people to the treasure using picture clues. In addition, characters that are part of the story are also drawn (limited to 4 characters) (*See Example page 3*)

Mapping: Students learn to draw maps, Mental maps to mind maps. Tools for thinking. How to organize and present information.

http://www.projectacademy.org/Documents/mindmapping_11082016.pdf



Improv: A series of improvs are done each week around the life-skills of building a problem-solving business. Improv “engineering lens” stories picture books will be the base for the problem-solving process. (Do one Improv, each session)

Civics: <https://www.icivics.org/> Running for the presidency isn’t easy! In *Win the White House*, you get to manage your very own presidential campaign by strategically raising funds, polling voters, launching media campaigns, and making personal appearances. Keep a close eye on the map as you battle over electoral votes and popular support.

Community: Get to know the community, research its organizations, gov’t, schools, businesses Develop ... Document its culture and map the community. Present to the community.

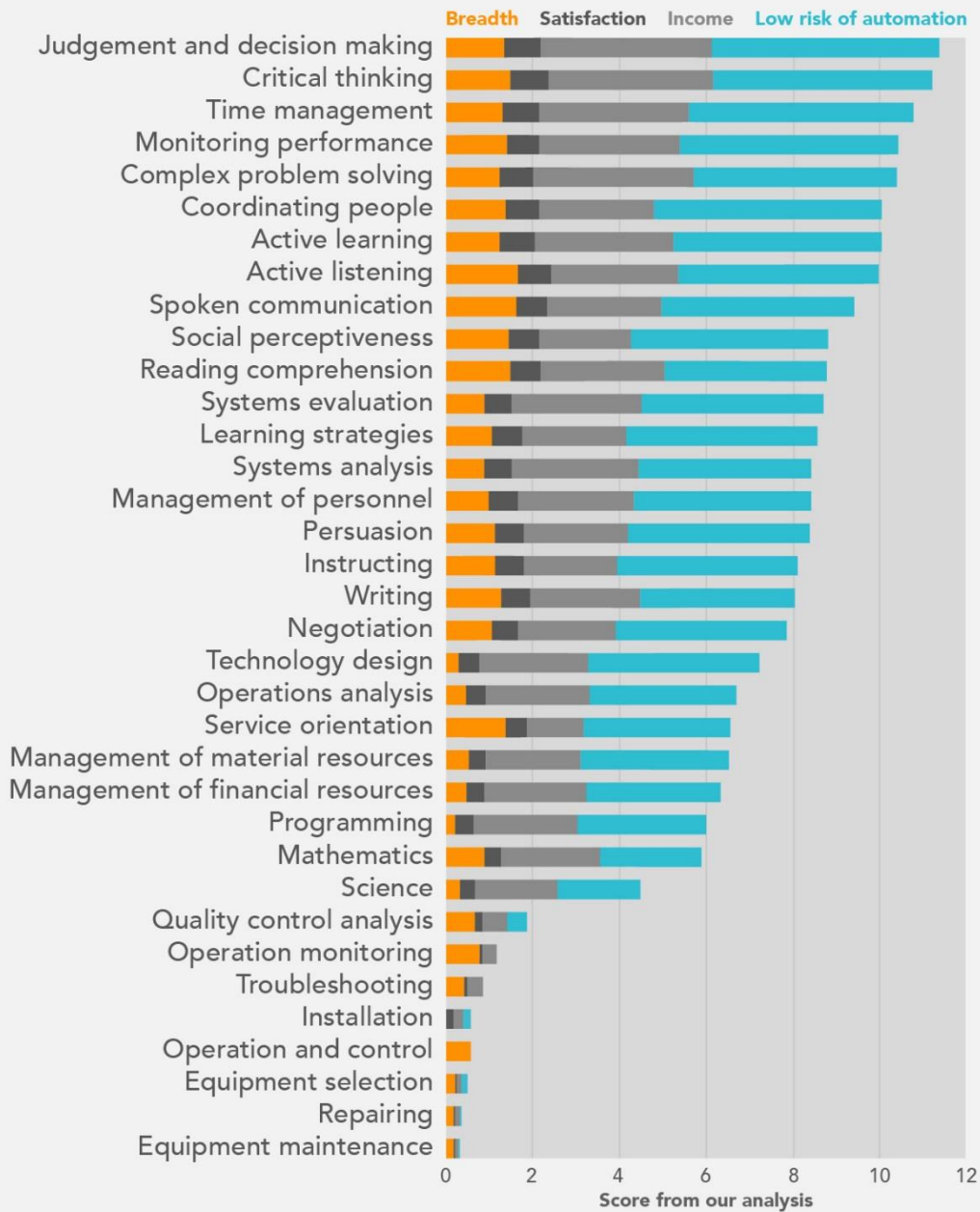
Outdoor projects: Design playgrounds, paths, and other community project to make the town better.

Research: Developing a research approach to current events and community problems. Provide summary and detail report on finding. You work as the research director for the mayor of Framingham, MA. She wants to know what the citizens are concerned about

Science: Create (build a plastic bottle water system) and learn about the water cycle in the planet, Learn about the weather, build instruments and make predictions. Learn about the properties of water ... ponds to particles



Which skills make people most employable?



80000hours.org/articles/skills-most-employable/




Self-direction description:

Creating a team:

Introduction: Read the on-line hand-out and view the [Flip videos](#)

Definition TEAM: *Come together as a team to achieve a common goal.*

<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p>Think about the progression of a team</p> <p>Path of creating a team</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">People</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">↓</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Group</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">↓</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Team</p> </div> <div> <p>Individuals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of people • Culture / Values • Generally NO roles <hr/> <p>Charter</p> </div> </div> <p>Question: How could this be like a path?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>Discuss each item relating to our</p> <div style="display: flex;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Elements of Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication - Symbol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gesture, sound, color, design - Values <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goodness and beauty - Beliefs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared ideas - Norms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules and expectations - Rituals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rites and Public ceremony </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;">community culture</p>
<p>Do Organizations have a Culture?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Culture? <p>Discussion of the elements of the community culture</p> <p>What are the boundaries?</p> <p>Could this add value to anybody?</p> <p>Write up the results</p> <p>The school will foster a Team/community based culture of a learning environment, with all treated as adults and with respect. What is our classroom culture? (How are we going to operate?)</p> <p>Modified Culture</p> <p>The school will foster a Team/community based culture of a learning environment, key values and treating all as adults and with respect.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>Essential Questions I must answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. What do I bring to the team? • 2. What are our commitments to one another? • 3. What differences exist between us? • 4. How will we operate? • 5. How will we know we are succeeding? What benefits does a team approach help in solving problems? • How are we going to work together – handle conflicts



<p>Creating a team charter The Charter Covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goals (Fun,), • How will we be measured at the end, • Roles that the team will do, (Scribe, Captain, Planner, Advisor, Tester, Public reporter,) • Our values, ... Curiosity, Trust, Flexibility, • Deliverables? • How will we handle conflicts? 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible values of a learning team are: Trust, Respect, Empathy, Kindness, Curiosity, Innovation, Persisting, Flexibility, Continuous learning, Humor and Taking responsible risk 	
<p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeting skills, Eye contact, nonverbal skills-10m ... Student discussion 	<p>Walk around the room & Practice the skills</p>



Action items:

Work together to form a learning team.

1. Follow the action sheet items and answer/discuss the various items to build your team. Your output will be to complete a team charter that will be judged and points awarded.
2. Do the additional action items with the hand-outs provided. Points will be awarded.

Additional Actions:

- How is a learning team like a sports team?
- What Life-Skills did we use during this exercise?
- Do an Improv around “How a learning team will do better than a group in solving a problem”. First person starts with one item followed by another until all is done.

