

**Identifying and Building Vocational Themes – Adam**

I’d like to introduce you to Adam. He is a young man, 20 years old and will leave school after his 21st birthday. His family is thinking about his future and wondered what they could be doing to think about Adam’s potential work possibilities. Like most parents, Adam’s mom and dad want him to have lots of work experiences (just like his brothers had) as he builds a work history and a path to an eventual career. Adam has a developmental disability and is in special education at school. He has several interests, which include: Being outside, helping his dad with work on an old car, playing with his pet dog Sadie, watching television, shooting baskets, riding his 3-wheeler bike, watching high school football games, and pro-teams on TV.

**Emerging patterns (not yet Themes) are: Outdoors/sports. Animals. Cars/mechanical.**

What are some Activities/Tasks/Chores that Adam could do at home that would give context to his interests that you could observe?

What new activities (in the community) could Adam be involved with that will help explore his interests? What could he actively DO???

What businesses do you know of related to his Emerging Themes where Adam could go visit, tour and speak with (with help, of course!) to learn about their careers and how they got into their line of work?

•Work in pairs or small groups

•Brainstorm activities where you might help Adam with **your** connections

•Identify nine creative activities that you could help Adam could do to explore his interests, in **your** community.

•Make sure you identify activities that Adam can ***actively***participate in that show skills.

•Make sure to identify some activities “outside of the usual

Who are some people that **you** know that Adam can meet, do an Informational Interview with, visit at work, tour their place of business – any or all of these.

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| **Activities/Tasks you could observe Adam doing at home related to his interests** |
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| **People Adam could meet and interview from your connections**  |
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| **Activities/tasks in community places Adam could do related to his interests** **where he can show what he can do, or where he can learn new skills** **(He has to DO something not just watch!) Use YOUR community, and YOUR connections** |
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