

L.A. youth teacher's guide

Publishing Schedule

L.A. Youth will arrive the week of Nov. 15, 2010

Key to using the November-December 2010 issue:

ARTICLE and PAGE NUMBER	KEY TEACHING POINTS
<p>My community needs a hospital p. 5 When Ronsanise was hit by a car, it was hard traveling a long distance to get treated.</p>	<p>What resources do you think are a right for all residents in a community? What do you feel your community is lacking?</p>
<p>Choosing my own path pp. 6-7 Bon Jin is pursuing his passion for writing, even though it's not what his parents wanted him to do.</p>	<p>See lesson plan on page 2.</p>
<p>Is your family prepared for an earthquake? p. 8 Most of our teen staff said no.</p>	<p>Do you think your family is prepared for an earthquake? What could you do to help your family put together a kit and make a plan?</p>
<p>I'm a Barbie girl p. 9 Jessica's collection of dolls are more than toys.</p>	<p>What childhood toys are you still attached to? Are there ways that toys can inspire your interests?</p>
<p>COVER STORY: Dad, please stop smoking pp. 10-11 Jennifer has tried to get her father to quit but he won't listen to her.</p>	<p>Where do your views of smoking come from? What would you say to a family member or friend to try to get them to quit?</p>
<p>They're family, not foster kids pp. 16-17 When babies can't live with their parents, Helen's family takes them in and gives them love.</p>	<p>Would you want your family to be a foster family? What benefits and responsibilities do you think that there would be?</p>
<p>I thought I'd never play again pp. 18-19 After years of severe back pain, Claudia finally gets to play the sport she loves.</p>	<p>Have you had to change your dreams because of something beyond your control? What did you do to not get discouraged?</p>
<p>Give museums a chance p. 21 Christian says art isn't just nice to look at, it can also be thought provoking.</p>	<p>What do you think of museums? What do you think about when you look at art?</p>
<p>North Koreans shouldn't have to suffer p. 22 When Ha Young learned about refugees who risked their lives to escape, she wished she could help them.</p>	<p>Why should teens in L.A. care about what's happening to people in other places? How do you think teens can help raise awareness?</p>
<p>My disease doesn't hold me back p. 23 Hanifati has had health problems all her life, but she's still doing the things she wants to do.</p>	<p>How do you maintain a positive outlook when you are going through hard times?</p>

Finding a career that's right for you

A lesson plan based on “Choosing my own path” from the November-December 2010 issue of L.A. Youth, in which Bon Jin Koo writes about pursuing his love of writing despite his parents' hopes that he focus on a career in business or science.

By Laura Lee, Editor

Grades: 6-12

Subjects: Language arts, life skills

Suggested time allowance: 45 minutes-1 hour

Resources/materials:

- pens, paper
- copies of L.A. Youth article “Choosing my own path” (one per student)
- white board or chalkboard

Overview:

Students will explore ways to connect their own interests to a possible future career.

Warm-up activity:

Write the word “careers” on the board. Ask your students to name different careers they've considered and write their answers on the board.

After making the list, ask your students discussion questions. What do they know about the job? Why does it sound interesting to them? What would their parents think if they pursued that field? What subjects should they study to prepare for it? Does it matter if they make a lot of money?

Activities:

Ask your students to read Bon Jin's story, “Choosing my own path,” on page 6 of the November-December issue of L.A. Youth. After reading the article, ask your students the following discussion questions to measure their reading comprehension:

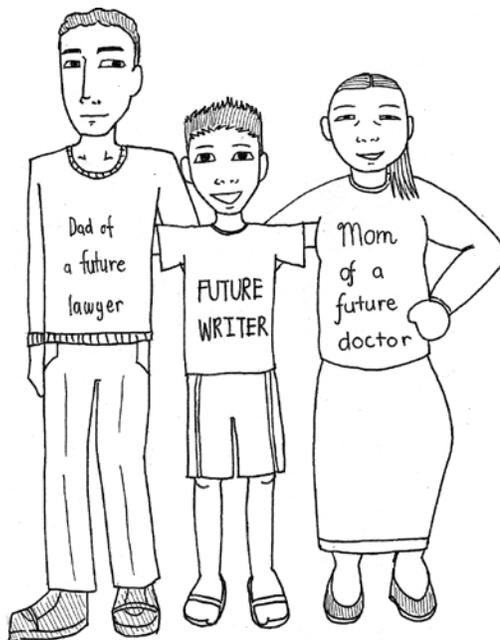


Illustration by Amy Fan, 16, Temple City HS

What kind of jobs did Bon Jin's parents want him to have?

- Doctor
- Lawyer
- Businessman
- One that made a lot of money

Why did Bon Jin change his mind about studying zoology?

- He started to get bored in science class at school.
- He didn't want to take science classes like chemistry and physics in college.

What factors convinced Bon Jin that pursuing writing was a good idea?

- He liked writing for fun outside of school.
- He loved discussing books in English class.
- It felt good to hear from others who read his short stories and told him that he was a good writer.
- His mother called him “a magician

with words.”

- Even after talking to his English teacher, who told him how much he'd have to write in college, he was still interested in study it.
- He enjoys writing for his school's newspaper to get more experience writing.

How are Bon Jin's expectations different from his parents'?

- He doesn't think making a lot of money is everything.
- He wants to enjoy going to work every day.
- He thinks that no matter what he does, if he works hard he can be successful.

Discussion:

After reading the story, ask your students what they thought of Bon Jin's decision to pursue writing. Do they agree with his reasons for wanting to be a writer? Is it OK for him to disagree with his parents' wishes? Do they agree with him that money isn't the only factor when considering a career?

Assignment:

Ask students to write about a career they're interested in pursuing. They should share their reasons for wanting to go into that field. They should also research it to find out what steps they would need to get that kind of job. What kind of education would they need—a college degree or technical school? What kinds of classes would they need to take? What type of subjects should they study now? How much money would that job make? After doing their research, do they still want to pursue that field? Why or why not?

Extension activity:

Have your students interview or shadow an adult who is working in the field that they're interested in to learn what it would be like to have that job.



Would you like a speaker from L.A. Youth?

Editors Laura Lee and Mike Fricano speak about journalism, current events, working as a reporter, how to be a better writer and how students can get involved in L.A. Youth.

Call (323) 938-9194 or e-mail Laura at llee@layouth.com or Mike at mfricano@layouth.com. PLEASE NOTE: You'll be asked to **pay \$5** to help offset the cost of gas.

THANKS TO TEACHERS who contributed essays and letters to the editor: Jolie Augustine, Wilson MS in Glendale; Christine Barboza, Paramount HS; Ms. Campbell, Madison MS; Kerry Jackson, Birmingham Community Charter HS and Jennifer Kim, San Gabriel HS.

Your students can join the L.A. Youth staff

the newspaper written by and about teens



Next Newcomer's Orientation: **Saturday, Dec. 11, 11 a.m.-noon** at L.A. Youth 5967 W. Third Street Suite 301, L.A. 90036 *(between Fairfax and La Brea)*

Call Amanda, Laura or Mike at (323) 938-9194.