

Stepping Stones to Get Related Experience

If you're willing to work hard to get to your ultimate goal, then it's time to show the world! But you're going to have to prepare, and preparing means getting experience. Participate in extra-curricular activities, consider courses that require time outside the classroom, volunteer, find related part-time work or get involved in your community. It's important to start early, and there's no time like the present. The purpose of Stepping Stones is to give you some direction on the path of your career journey.

Remember, if you've completed the Dream Job Matrix, you've identified some options for gaining the skills and experience related to your dream job.

Stepping Stone 1: Gaining Experience (fill in the sections that apply to you)

Reading the *Getting Related Experience* tip sheet will help here.

I want to volunteer at:	I need to contact:	I need to provide:	These people can help me:	They can help by...
My school, as a science tutor.	The school counsellor.	My science marks.	My science teacher.	Providing the school counsellor with a personal reference and by confirming my marks.

I want to job-shadow at:	I need to contact:	I need to provide:	These people can help me:	They can help by...
A television station with a weather expert.	CBC Television, APTN, A CHANNEL	A resume	My student counsellor My mother	Preparing me for interviews, offering advice on completing my resume.

I want to work part-time at:	I need to contact:	I need to provide:	These people can help me:	They can help by...
A television station. Working part time would give me a chance to see how everything works.	The Human Resource department at my local television station.	A resume and three personal references.	My student counsellor.	Proofreading my resume, practicing a job interview with me.

Stepping Stone 2: Getting Involved in the Environment

This step will require some research. You need to figure out how you want to help out, what organizations to contact, and what your action plan is to get involved (such as making personal changes in how you treat the environment, volunteering, making posters, etc.).

This part of the environment interests me:	I want to help out by:	The local contacts are:	The national contacts are:
Climate	Being a climate and severe weather volunteer	Timothy Ball (climatologist), University of Winnipeg's Department of Geography	Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society, Environment Canada

My action plan is:

Contact the above mentioned people/organizations and find out exactly how I can get involved in climate and severe weather volunteering. Once I gather all the information, then I will get involved and really start to learn about a career as a climate change specialist. I want to volunteer because it's an opportunity to watch for bad weather, record climate changes and help others. I think I can learn a lot.

Stepping Stone 3: Connecting with Industry People and Organizations

This section will help you find job leads, advice, information about jobs or organizations you're interested in, career fairs as well as trade shows. Think of people you know that can help you, places you can go to meet people, and how you can get organized. If you get stuck, take a look at the tip sheet *Getting Related Experience*, which has information about how you can network in your community.

Who do I know?	They can help me:
My student counsellor	By giving me guidance on preparing for work, and juggling work and school
My dad's friend	Because he's a university professor in climatology

I could meet people here:	I'll get organized by:	I have the following leads/information:
Career fairs	Preparing my resume, making business cards, writing a cover letter to send out to organizations	