

# NEWS & VIEWS

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.

## EASY CAREER-READINESS TECHNIQUES FOR TRANSITION STUDENTS



Getting students ready for their transition from high school to the "real world" doesn't have to be challenging. In fact, it can be fun with some creativity and effective [hands-on curriculum](#). You can start by asking the following questions:



How can I connect **soft skills** to my students' daily tasks at school?



What **work-based learning** opportunities are right for my students?



How can I make transition **fun, engaging, and relevant** to the real world?

[Emily Scheffler](#), Functional Special Education Teacher at St. James High School in South Carolina, shared her transition techniques to connect classroom experiences to the real world in our [March Webinar Wednesday](#). Emily's dedication and creativity in teaching job & life skills to her students earned her the Second Annual [Gary Bates Award](#) for Excellence in Career Education. Click the link below to listen to her share unique and engaging techniques that you can implement in your classroom.



TELL ME MORE!

## EASY AS 1, 2, 3!

Effective career readiness techniques can progress gradually, so you can truly [meet the needs of all your students](#). It's easy to increase students' confidence by practicing skills in new environments. As you slowly take off their "training wheels", they can develop into independent, well adjusted adults. It all starts with three easy techniques:



### SCHOOL-BASED LEARNING

Start with something small. Students are comfortable in the school environment, so it's a safe place to introduce new concepts. Here are some things to consider:

- **Don't reinvent the wheel.** Participate in something your school already has in place (e.g. recycling programs, cafeteria assistance, junior librarian, office assistance).
- **Get OT, speech, & PT involved.** Students can hit multiple goals simultaneously in the classroom.
- **Incorporate [social & emotional learning skills](#).** Examples include: showing respect, friendship basics, self-determination and conflict resolution.
- **Invest in a [hands-on, evidence-based curriculum](#) to lay a solid foundation for career exploration and soft skills.** Having lesson plans, assessments and competencies already built in allows you to spend more time supporting your students.



[Click here](#) for more school-based learning resources.

# 2

## SCHOOL-BASED ENTERPRISE

Starting a [school-based enterprise](#) can feel like a daunting task. Emily started Java Jaws Coffee Cart for her students. Here are some ways you can maximize your enterprise for your students, [with examples from Java Jaws](#):

- Assign students [jobs with unique tasks](#). This enables job task exploration. For example, The Manager's job would be to keep everyone on task. The Scribe would write order information on cups. The Delivery Team would read a map of the school & route the cart.
- Practice these job tasks in the classroom with [hands-on curriculum](#).
- Look for [resources](#) available around you. Build a supportive community for your students in your school. Ask other programs if they will help! For example, the woodworking class could make a stand to hold coffee cups.



To learn more about creating an enterprise with your students, click to watch a previous [Webinar Wednesday](#) with guest speaker Lyn Perry!

# 3

## COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

Work with local establishments to give students work-based learning experiences on real job sites! This could be anything from a grocery store to a car wash to a hotel. Local businesses love to work with students that are the future of their workforce! Here are some benefits of this type of program:

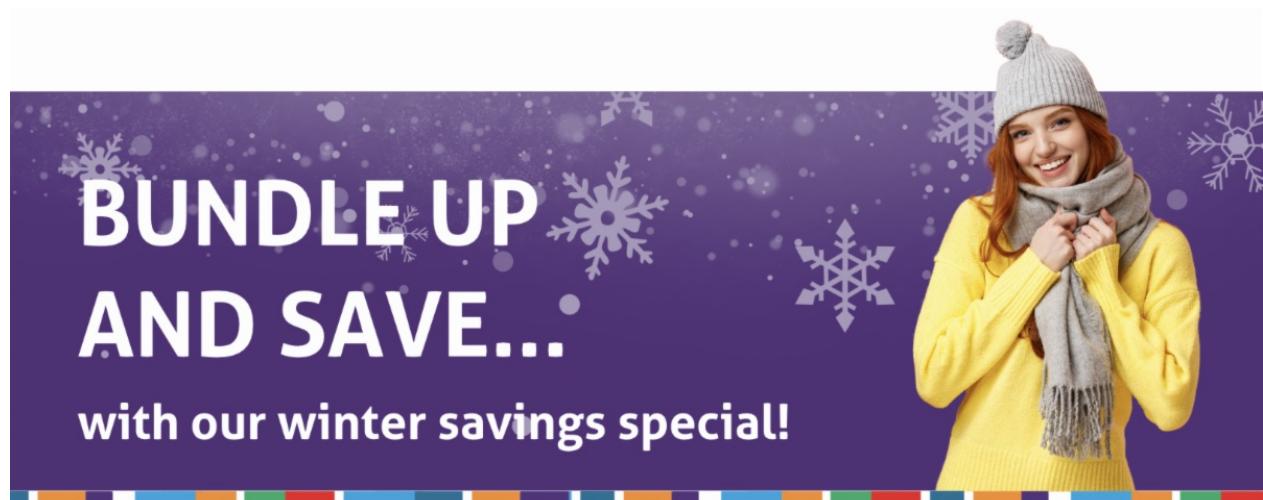
- [Career exploration](#) in a work-based environment
- Learning [real job tasks](#)
- Building relationships with managers in a workplace
- Possibilities for internships & competitive employment after graduation
- Increase confidence in their skills



- Correlate the skills your students learn to their IEPs. Skills you are working on may include:
  - Sequencing
  - Numeracy/finance
  - Gross/fine motor skills
  - Planning & problem solving
  - Hygiene
- Experiment with whole group or individual tasks when learning something new.
- Give students IEP-based goals centered around their interests.
- Collect data from therapists in the classroom & use it to document IEPs.
- Use yes/no charts with different indicators to track progress. (e.g., Can the student do the task independently? Do they need a verbal prompt?)

Click below to learn about additional resources for career exploration and transition techniques in the classroom.

LEARN MORE



It is now more affordable than ever to start a [\*fun and engaging transition program\*](#) in your classroom! Get your students job ready life ready with [evidence-based, differentiated, customizable curriculum](#) that meets the needs of ALL students!

Order now before time runs out on these exclusive savings. Don't know where to start? We can help! [Click Here](#)

LEARN MORE



WE CAN GET YOUR STUDENTS

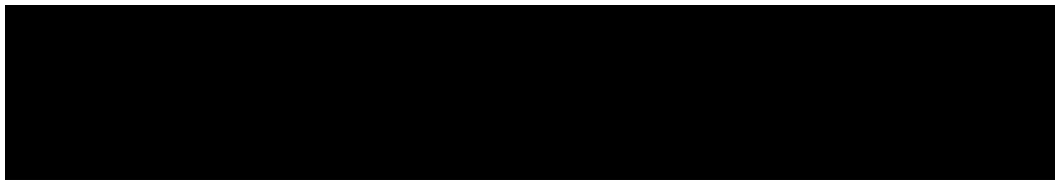
**JOB READY, LIFE READY**

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LET'S TALK!

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR HANDS-ON, EVIDENCE-BASED CURRICULUM



Teaming together  
to **champion** your  
students.



(1 minute video)

LEARN MORE

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