

Working Toward the Future

GRADE 2

Course Overview

Beable’s Working Toward the Future Grade 2 course helps young learners begin their journey of self-discovery through the World of Work. At this foundational level, students explore who they are, what they enjoy, and how their interests connect to the many ways people contribute to the world around them.

This course lays the groundwork for Grades 3–5, which expands learning into areas such as Financial Empowerment, Civic Responsibility, Health and Wellness, and Personal and Workplace Empowerment. Grade 2 focuses specifically on World of Work, RIASEC exploration, and RIASEC application, helping students recognize their unique strengths and preferences.

Understanding the RIASEC Themes

John Holland’s **RIASEC themes** describe six broad interest areas that connect what people like to do with the kinds of work they might enjoy. Each theme helps students recognize their own preferences and appreciate the many different ways people contribute to the world.

REALISTIC (DOERS) – Enjoy hands-on activities, building, and working with tools, objects, or nature.

INVESTIGATIVE (THINKERS) – Curious about how things work; love exploring, asking questions, and solving problems.

ARTISTIC (CREATORS) – Use imagination to express ideas through art, music, writing, and design.

SOCIAL (HELPERS) – Like working with and helping others; enjoy teamwork, kindness, and communication.

ENTERPRISING (LEADERS) – Take initiative, lead groups, and enjoy persuading or creating new projects.

CONVENTIONAL (ORGANIZERS) – Prefer order and structure; enjoy following steps, sorting, and organizing information.



Unit and Lesson Overview

Unit 1: Realistic – Hands-On Helpers

Students explore Realistic interests—those who like working with tools, nature, and physical activities. They learn how 'doers' bring ideas to life through building, repairing, and creating tangible results.

Lessons Include:

- Keeping It Real
- Carpenters: They Make Almost Everything!
- Learning to Trust...and Be Trusted
- Surf's Up: The Basics of Surfing
- July 23: A Hot Invention for a Cool Treat
- Biking Across the Golden Gate Bridge
- Take Note of Nature
- August 6: First Woman Swims the English Channel
- July 2: Lawn Chair Larry Takes Off
- Tag Goes Pro
- How Cool Is Jump Rope?

Unit 2: Investigative – Curious Thinkers

Students dive into curiosity-driven learning, discovering how Investigative types love asking questions, finding answers, and understanding how the world works.

Lessons Include:

- Careers Worth Investigating
- Go Beyond Taking Care of a Pet: Become a Vet!
- Curiosity: You Just Want to Know!
- Jane Goodall: Learning About Animals by Living Among Them
- What Happens When We Eat?
- Sally's Ride: NASA Launches the First American Woman into Space
- Unicorns of the Sea
- July 9: The Man Who Soared Over the Great Wall of China
- Brave New Zoos
- Notes from the Oregon Trail
- How Do We Get Rain, Snow, and Hail?

Unit 3: Artistic – Creative Communicators

Students discover how Artistic types express themselves through art, writing, music, and imagination. They learn that creativity helps people share ideas, emotions, and solutions.

Lessons Include:

- Express Yourself!
- Wanna Play? Let's Chat with a Musician
- Imagination
- Unfolding the Art of Origami
- Inspired by Nature: Beach Art
- How to Make a Map
- Two Paintings of Barefoot Boys
- Amanda Gorman Makes Poetry the Main Event
- Poems About Pancakes and the Wind!
- Brayden and the Prez
- September 24: Muppets Creator Jim Henson Was Born

Unit 4: Social – Helpers and Team Players

Students explore how Social types enjoy working with and helping others. They learn that kindness, inclusion, and teamwork make communities stronger.

Lessons Include:

- Are You a People Person?
- Push It to the Limit!
- Including Others
- How Dare You: Greta Thunberg's Fight
- The Meaning of True Friendship
- Sacagawea: Helping the Lewis and Clark Expedition
- Kid of the Year: Gitanjali Rao
- November 5: Guide Dogs Introduced to the United States
- Ryan's Recycling Company: Saving the World, One Bottle at a Time
- How to Care for a Pet Dog
- Eddie Takes the Big Leap

Unit 5: Enterprising – Leaders and Innovators

Students meet enterprising individuals who use creativity, confidence, and leadership to turn ideas into action.

Lessons Include:

- Fields for Fearless Leaders
- What’s Cooking? Ask the Chef
- Communication
- Stepping Into Business with Levi Strauss
- Sitting Bull and the Battle of Little Big Horn
- World’s Youngest CEO
- Super-Cool Kicks
- December 3: Kidfluencer Ryan Kaji Named YouTube’s Top Earner
- Finally, a Bat Girl...60 Years Later
- Ruby Bridges: Making History One Step at a Time
- Welcome to Mario’s Pizzeria

Unit 6: Conventional – Organizers and Planners

Students discover that being organized, following steps, and creating order are important strengths. They learn how structure helps people work efficiently and reach goals.

Lessons Include:

- That’s Right!
- Software Developers Tell Computers What to Do
- Patience
- Where Does My Food Come From?
- Student Survey: How to Fill Out a Form
- How to Make a Terrarium Mini-Garden
- Why Are There So Many Rules?!
- Go Fish: How to Play
- Cooking 101 and How to Make Chicken Alfredo with a Twist
- Schedules Help Us Get Things Done
- How to Make S’mores with a Solar Oven