

# One Day Monthly

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## Getting to Know Yourself *Finding the Right Career*

So you're looking forward to that magical day when you finish school and land the perfect job. Perhaps you are excited, scared, or a bit confused. This article is to help relieve the confusion (and the fear) from this long process. Remember that entering a career field and landing a job is a process and there are things you can do now to make your task smoother and more successful later.

### Pray

It has been said before, but it bears repeating: God is intimately concerned with everything you do and he has a plan for your success. His plan is bigger and better, but you won't get the "blueprints" unless you ask, trust and wait. A great verse of encouragement is "Commit everything you do to the Lord; ask him to help you and he will do this: he will make your light shine as the morning and your righteousness as the noonday sun." (Psalm 37:5-6)

### Read and Research

You would not write an English paper without looking up details on Google or at the local library; why would you enter a career field—which will affect your whole life—with any less effort! Plan to read and study everything you can about the job or career you are contemplating and you will thank yourself later.

There is a story about a dentist in his forties who was mad at the boy who dared to lock him into the career he now hated! As you can see, he was mad at himself. It is inevitable that you will change over the course of your lifetime and your career field will change as well. There are areas which you cannot control. Why not learn as much as you can right now? Perhaps your informed

decision will result in longer-lasting contentment.

Laura Morgan of Leander, who graduated with a BA in psychology from Trinity University, says this: "Encourage your students to learn their personality profile and then do some reading on the specific jobs compatible with that. If I had known in high school what my personality profile was—it's ISTP—I would have looked more carefully into a career in engineering. I was reluctant to pursue it based on a very generic and

ill-informed picture of engineers and engineering."

There are three web sites that are particularly helpful for making career choices.

- ACT's World of Work Map  
<http://www.act.org/wwm/index.html>

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### Special points of interest:

- Finding the Right Career
- Spelling Bee
- Book Review: *Start Here*
- Sea World Trip
- Academic Fair

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## Students Test Their Skills at Spelling Bee

Nearly 30 students turned out on January 8 to test their skills at the second annual One Day Academy Spelling Bee.

This year's winner, Matthew Kroesche (13), will advance to the regional competition of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, to be held February 5 at Trinity Episcopal School in Austin.

Matthew is no newcomer to spelling bees. "I have done spelling bees for several years." Matthew credits his spelling success to his love for Latin. "In spelling, words with Latin roots are the easiest."

Matthew and runner-up Joshua McNeil (13), who also won special

distinction for Enunciation, matched wits in a suspenseful final round.

Sophia Hootman (8), who won a special award for Poise for the second year in a row, held her own with Matthew and Joshua before the final rounds.

Will Pahlow (12) earned an award for Sportsmanship for his good-natured attitude during the Bee.

"We're delighted that so many more students came out this year to test their skills, but what really impressed the judges and me was their maturity, sportsmanship, and the way they handled themselves,

win or lose," said Bee announcer and ODA teacher Debra Pahlow.

ODA teacher Cinda Lewis organized the event.

-Susan Peisker



Runner-up Joshua McNeil (left) and winner Matthew Kroesche spelled off for several rounds. Photo by Susan Peisker

## Book Review: *Start Here*

*Alex and Brett Harris Offer a Field Guide to Do Hard Things*

“Teens need to follow God in His big plans for them.”

There is a rebellion going on. It started small with a blog and went viral, blossoming into a book deal and a national tour.

Who started this rebellion? The word is not misspelled; it is a combination of rebel and revolution and it refers to teens rebelling against the unusually low expectations for them set by our culture. Twin brothers Alex and Brett Harris started a blog as a summer project; that blog has grown into a national movement.

Their first book, *Do Hard Things* was very popular, leading to the publication of a second book called *Start Here: Doing Hard Things Right Where You Are*. The Harrises received so many questions about how to get started, they thought a second book was needed.

Teens need to follow God in His big plans for them. Students are never too young to be an instrument of the Lord. “Most people don’t expect you to un-

derstand what we’re going to tell you in this book,” said the Harrises. “And even if you understand, they don’t expect you to care. And even if you care, they don’t expect you to do anything about it. And even if you do something about it, they don’t expect it to last. We do.”

Without knowing this, *Start Here* will make little to no sense.

*Start Here* is a field guide to *Do Hard Things*. It gives real life examples, such as Ana Zimmerman who started and raised funds for an abortion awareness event called Love the Least. She even convinced a large pro-life advocacy group called Abort73 to come and take part.

The book also has less well known stories, such as how a girl named Elizabeth helped an elderly woman scrape ice off her car in a blizzard even when Elizabeth had other things to do.

*Start Here* answers questions

about starting or joining a cause. “Where do I start?” “How do I know if the task is too big?” “Are small hard things important?” It also reminds teens that all things are for His glory, not man’s. He may ask you to do something big or something small. Not every cause will be worthy of a newspaper story. The book goes on to say that doing hard things is started by doing everything extremely well.

Overall I think this book is a must read for any teen because I think they should know how to organize a group of like-minded people or how to join in a cause. The book also will encourage students who think they are slipping away from God. I personally found it helpful as I was looking to renew commitments in school and to get started on a project for His glory.

-Justin Movalli

## Amazing Marine Creatures

*Marine Biology Students Get a “Behind the Scenes” Look at Sea World*



This dolphin playfully splashes in the water for the students. Photo by Shelby Spigelmir

On a pleasant morning in October, our Marine Biology class drove to San Antonio and enthusiastically began a day-long journey through Sea World.

Our guide was a sweet woman with hot-dog earrings and a true passion for marine animals. She first led us to an exhibit full of squeaking and clicking dolphins that “spied” at us and playfully splashed in the water. Of our class, only a few managed to touch these flirting, rubbery creatures before being reluctantly pulled away and redirected to an aquarium.

As we watched sharks dart past the aquarium glass, an educator taught us about the feeding habits of these great

toothed creatures. We also observed stingrays, jelly fish, eels, and a myriad of other sea creatures.

Soon after, we were taken by our guide to a tank where porpoises were swimming and playing with one another. A young trainer came out and gave us a talk on animal behavior and the training of marine mammals, describing the amount of work needed to present a Sea World show. I think many of us were surprised at the complexity of the preparation.

Equally as surprising was a second talk we heard on the extent of work involved in caring for sick marine mammals.

Transportation alone of these sick mammals is an immense undertaking.

Once this second trainer had finished, our guide took us to a final exhibit, where we were able to touch stingrays, handle stingray barbs, and also feel samples of the cartilage of which these animals are made. As we did this, the sun began to set, and we knew it was time to leave.

Yet, at the end of that day, we knew that our class had truly been blessed with all of the knowledge we gained about our Creator’s amazing marine creatures!

-Samantha Jorden

## Finding the Right Career

(Continued from page 1)

This is my FAVORITE online college tool! What kind of work is right for you? Are you most interested in data, things, ideas or people? Are you somewhere in between? This interactive map allows you to click on your interest areas, view particular careers connected to that interest, then open to the requirements of those careers. A list of specific skill sets required for each career will let you know if you have the ability and motivation to succeed in that career.

- What Can I Do With This Major?  
<http://www2.sfasu.edu/advising/majors/default.html>

Here is a convenient website that helps connect majors with careers. For each major, click on "Information" to access an outline of common career areas, typical employers, and career strategies. Click on "Links" to access a list of websites pertaining to those majors and related careers.

- Occupational Outlook Handbook  
<http://stats.bls.gov/oco/home.htm>  
 Do you wonder about the salary potential, working conditions, or even future availability of the ca-

reer or job you are considering? You should! This is a great website updated yearly by the US Department of Labor that can answer your questions for hundreds of different types of jobs, such as teacher, lawyer, and nurse. In addition, the Handbook gives you job search tips and links to information about the job market by state.

### Intern

The old-fashioned approach to becoming skilled in a job is apprenticeship. The modern equivalent is an internship. Please do an internship! Whether the internship is a paid position or not, the benefits to the intern are numerous. Listing a solid internship experience on a resume will likely be the deciding factor in winning that scholarship, job or college admittance.

### Interview People

There are many aspects of a job or career which just cannot be communicated in a book or on a website. What you need is to interview a person in that field. Start with parents and expand your research to family friends, extended family members, and even celebrities who have excelled in your chosen arena. There is a basic etiquette

to interviewing, which includes the following: call or write for an appointment, state your purpose clearly, prepare questions in advance, ask permission to record the interview by notes or voice recording, and send a thank you note after the interview.

### Work

This is a two-pronged approach. A journey of many miles will require some provisions along the way. In other words: you will need a job while you are in the process of preparing for your future JOB! I learned to type when I was in elementary school and later I was employed as a secretary while I worked my way through college to get a teaching certificate. My son was a lifeguard, then a janitor as he pursued a medical degree. Everyone who does not have a large college savings fund will need to work while they study. Here are two helpful tips: 1) Try to match your secondary job to your personality; 2) Try to match your secondary job to a field or skill related to the primary goal. For instance, a future dentist could first become a dental assistant or x-ray technician.

This is the last in a series of articles designed to help you succeed on the college track. There is so much information available today; I hope every student reading this article will avail themselves of it. The websites and pointers contained herein are a reliable compass to speed you in the right direction. Go with God!

-One Day Academy English teacher  
 Lorraine Mahan has four children who have worked as a nanny, a secretary, a clerk, a landscaper, a janitor, a waitress, and a lifeguard in order to pursue careers in missions, psychology, education and medicine.

### GLOSSARY

*Career* – profession for life; training and working in a particular occupation for an entire working life rather than a brief period

*Profession* – occupation requiring extensive education, i.e. doctor, lawyer, teacher

*Job* – paid occupation; any activity or set of tasks which someone does regularly for pay

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# Announcements

- Parents, if you would like your child to take the **Iowa Test of Basic Skills**, then you will not want to miss the registration deadline of February 11. Standardized testing will take place at Crestview Baptist Church in Austin on March 28, 29, and 31 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. For more information: <http://onedayacademy.com/event-calendar/standardized-testing/>.

- If you own a business, consider sharing the news with other homeschoolers. The **One Day Academy Business Directory** is offering yearlong listings at a special introductory rate. Contact Susan Peisker at [s.peisker@onedayacademy.com](mailto:s.peisker@onedayacademy.com) for more information.

- **Save the dates!** One Day Academy **open houses** are coming March 22-31. Parents and students are encouraged to attend the open houses, held from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the various campuses, in order to meet teachers, learn about courses, register for classes, and obtain general information about the 2011-12 school year. Go to: <http://onedayacademy.com/event-calendar/open-houses/> for exact dates and locations.

## Students Present Their Best

*Art and Science Students Gather for the 4th Annual Academic Fair*

Outside it was cold and raining, but inside the gym the students did not notice. Some were fighting off nervousness as they awaited judging, while others were too busy chatting with friends to notice the weather.

After weeks and sometimes months of work, science and art students were gathered to see how the judges would assess their efforts at the fourth annual One Day Academy Academic Fair held on January 15 at Crestview Baptist Church in Austin.

"I've always enjoyed science, so I thought it would be fun [to participate in the fair]," said Remy Manasco. He called his project Household Chemical Reactions.

For practical reasons, Lauren Sheldon chose to research water purification. "We camp a lot, so I want to be able to check the water," she said. The hardest part of her experimentation was testing all the water samples she had gathered.

Christina Hanna used a photo

from her sister's camera to research the effects of file size on picture quality. "I found the idea on ScienceBuddies.org," she said. Researching for Bits and Bytes was informative, as she learned "all the different colors and file sizes and how to make photos better."

Volunteer judges evaluated over 160 projects, including 36 science projects and 43 photographs. The remaining art projects utilized a variety of media, including charcoal, paint, pencil, and sculptured soap.

Trevor Harris, who is taking Renaissance Painting with Kelly Gallaher at Southwest Capstone, submitted a painting of still life. He worked on the painting for three months last spring and all fall semester. "There are three time-consuming processes, so it took a long time," he said.

Student photographers Emily Curtis and Rebekah James agreed that some of their entries were simply spontaneous inspirations. The perfect photo

might be one of dozens or even hundreds taken during a particular session.

Students received blue or red ribbons for their efforts. Science students may progress to the Austin Energy Science Festival, and art students who received blue ribbons are encouraged to participate in the Visual Arts Scholastic Event. Both are regional events for public and private school students.

ODA teacher Patti Ashley extended her thanks to fair coordinator Cinda Lewis and the several art and science teachers who helped manage the event, as well as the many judges and parent helpers.

"The quality of the entries was outstanding," said Mrs. Patti Ashley of the science portion of the fair. "Thirty-two blue ribbons [for science projects] were awarded—the judges were impressed. Even though it was cold and rainy, there was plenty of enthusiasm."



Judges evaluate art submissions at the 2011 One Day Academy Academic Fair. Photo by Susan Peisker