

PERSONAL LEARNING NETWORK

Here's a great career exploration tool: **develop a Personal Learning Network**. A PLN is an informal network of people that you learn from. In some cases, you'll have direct connections; in others you won't. PLNs can be formed in-person or virtually, so if you don't have career role models in your environment, the internet can be an excellent resource for this tool.

1. Simply find the person or people who are excelling in your career field of interest.
2. Put your Google skills to work. Research their names to learn more about them. Find articles, videos, reports, publications, etc. Collectively, these resources will help you learn more about:
 - a. Their work experiences (what they liked, didn't like, wished they'd handled differently, etc.)
 - b. Their career journey (where they began, past jobs, where they worked, what paths led to their current position)
 - c. Helpful lessons learned along the way
3. Bookmark or print your findings. Organize, file and keep for your personal reference and inspiration.

This process will help you build a personal "library", filled with information that is **meaningful to you**. Give it a try! Use this worksheet for each person in your PLN.

Worksheet

**Name of Contact,
Current Title**

**Previous Jobs and
Companies**

**Training /
Education**

**Associations,
Awards, Notable
Career Milestones**

**Social media
handles**

Notes