**Discussion GUIDE: Information Technology Careers**

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| **TEACHER DISCUSSION LEADERS:**1. Lead a class discussion about Information Technology careers using the Proposed Student Discussion Questions and Prompts.2. Discuss which high school CTE courses help students get ready for a career in Information Technology.3. Key concepts for an Information Technology introductory concepts include: a) Computer Systems, b) Installing and Troubleshooting  Technology and Devices, and c) Coding.4. Find additional Information Technology resources on the TREES website at <https://www.cteintrees.org/career-exploration-resources>. | **STUDENT OPTIONS:** 1. Take the Career Assessment in the *TREES Career Guide for Students*. Then,  review Information Technology job titles on pages 20 and 21.2. Take the *True Colors Personality Quiz* at  <https://www.ira.esc14.net/upload/page/0255/True%20Colors.pdf>.3. Watch the 9-minute *10 Things to Know Before Getting Into Information* *Technology* video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WB6RcY0MPc> and the 3.5-minute video *How to Get into IT Support* at  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWAthrmSGyk>.4. Do your own research about Information Technology careers to learn more.5. Participate in a class discussion. |

Proposed Student Questions and Prompts

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| Q1a. What do people in Information Technology careers do? Which Information Technology jobs (page 20 of the *Career Guide for Students*) are most interesting to you? Characteristics of Information Technology professionals include:***Creators*** are enthusiastic, analytical, curious, and must communicate a message clearly. ***Thinkers*** solve problems, make decisions, and organize tasks well.Q1b. What strengths did *True Colors* identify about you?  | **In an Information Technology career,** you may operate the technology for computer systems at groceries, retail shops, or for a public safety entity. You may develop apps for businesses and customers to shop, get text updates, and send offers. You may support others by troubleshooting technology problems and helping fix their devices (e.g., I can’t open this program!). You may own your own technology solutions business.What skills might you need to improve to be more successful in an Information Technology career? Skills are the ability to do something well. |
| Q2. What did you learn from the *10 Things to Know* and the *How to Get*  *Into IT Support* videos? | What skills do Information Technologists need? Which of those skills do you already have? What skills might you need to improve for a career in Information Technology?  |
| Q3. Do you know someone who works in the Information Technology industry such as an App/Software Developer, Programmer, Help Desk,  Support Specialist, Security Analyst, IT Support, etc.? | What do they do at work? What high school courses would help you get started in an Information Technology career? |
| Q4. What Information Technology employers are in your local area?  | *Proven IT* and *Andromeda Technology Solutions* are two local Information Technology employers. Can you list 3 more employers?1.2.3. |