

Invest in **ME**

Kindergarten

People in Our Neighborhood Family Guide

Kindergarten is a great time to talk with your child about what they want to do when they grow up (chances are, you've already heard a few career ideas). During these conversations, listen to why your child is so interested in a particular job or career. Share in their excitement and let them know what it might take education-wise to be successful in the field. Learning early to build big dreams will only help your child's future success!

The attached activity was shared with your child in the classroom as part of the Invest in ME Kindergarten program. Invest in ME Kindergarten is a joint program of the Alfond Scholarship Foundation and the Finance Authority of Maine. It was designed to have your child think about the jobs they might see in their community.

Here are some ways you can approach connecting with your child about this activity.

Dinner Conversations

- Talk about the jobs that other people in your family circle have, and how they got those jobs. How do those jobs support families?
- Have your child shadow a family member for a half hour while they do their job. Let your child see what that job is like and if they are interested in it.

Out and About

- When you're out in the community, talk to your child about the people you see working and/or about who might work in the various buildings you are driving by.
- Talk with friends who hold jobs in the community—connect them with your child and have them discuss what it takes to do well in their career.

Likes

- Talk to your child about what job they might like, even tying future careers to their current interests and likes.
- Get their friends involved! Have group talks with your child and their friends about what they all want to be. Getting children excited for their future is a really fun way to talk about what that future could be.



Did you know that all babies born as Maine residents starting in 2013 have been automatically awarded a \$500 Alfond Grant to be used for their future college or training expenses from the Alfond Scholarship Foundation? You can use your Alfond Grant to continue saving for higher education by opening a 529 account. Learn more about Maine's 529 plan, the college savings account used by many Maine families like yours, at www.NextGenforMe.com.