

Middle School Career Investigations

A Day in the Life of a Middle School Teacher

Title and Directions

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER

A teacher's life is busy AND rewarding. In this interactivity, learn more about the Education and Training Career Cluster by experiencing a day in the life of a middle school teacher. Click on the numbered icons in order to learn more. Click **NEXT** to begin.



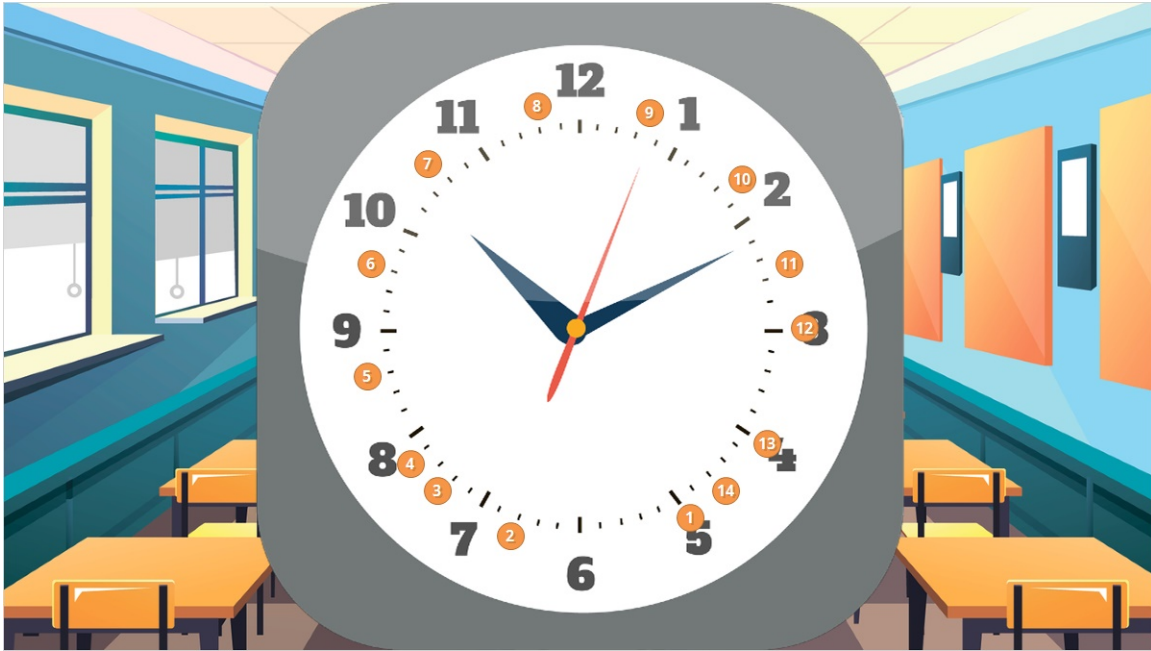
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1: 5:00 AM – 6:30 AM

Good morning! My name is Mr. Webb and I teach Spanish. This buzzing alarm in my ear lets me know it's time to get ready for work. I had to get up an hour earlier than usual because we have a faculty meeting before students arrive. Over the next hour and a half, I brush my teeth, eat breakfast, go for a quick run, shower, and drive to school.

2: 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM

Once I get into the building, I put my lunch in the teacher lounge and grab a cup of coffee to bring into the faculty meeting. Today we are learning about a new feature that was added to our class websites that will help us communicate with our students and their families.

3: 7:30 AM - 7:50 AM

It's my turn for bus duty, so I head outside to greet students as they arrive at school.

4: 7:50 AM - 8:41 AM

Since I don't teach during the first period, I meet the other teachers on my team for a planning session. We share information about what students are learning, new teaching strategies, and lesson plans that others may want to use.

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5: 8:45 AM - 9:35 AM

Every school has a schedule that teachers and students follow. I teach a Spanish I class during the second period of the day. I set up my classroom before I left work yesterday. Everything is prepared. I stand by the door to greet each student. Today students are learning about Barcelona by watching a video, having a class conversation that uses new vocabulary, and preparing for tomorrow's quiz.

6: 9:39 AM - 10:29 AM

I teach another Spanish I class during the third period of the day. I don't need to set up anything special because I am leading the same lesson as in the previous period. Again, I greet my students at the door. One comes in late and hands me a tardy pass. I remind him that being on time will benefit him in his studies and when he gets a job.

7: 11:01 AM - 11:51 AM

Fourth period is split into two lunch sessions. Sometimes I do lesson planning while students eat, but today I have lunch duty for the first half of the period. Once the first lunch session is over, I head to the teacher's lounge to eat. After catching one of my students in the hallway to discuss an assignment she needs help on, I have about ten minutes left to eat my sandwich.

8: 11:55 AM - 12:45 PM

Although I usually teach Spanish II during this period, once a quarter we have a middle school assembly to attend during this time. Today the guest speaker is the President of the local food bank. She is speaking about hunger issues and ways we can volunteer in the community. These assemblies are great for our students, but now I'll have to adjust my lesson plans for the rest of the week so my students stay on track with their learning.

9: 12:49 PM - 1:39 PM

This period is with another Spanish II class. I haven't had time to set up for them, so while students trickle into the classroom, I get together materials for the lesson. I created a fun game for today's warm-up activity.

10: 1:43 PM - 2:35 PM

Now, I have to shift gears and teach Spanish I again.

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11: 2:35 PM - 3:00 PM

Some students from the last period have questions for me, so they make a line in front of my desk. There are enough questions that I decide I will need to review some of the content tomorrow.

12: 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Most days I offer tutoring sessions that students can attend after school. Today, I am working with four students who need a little extra support on difficult grammar.

13: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

I work on lesson plans I need for the rest of the week. A couple teachers come in to say hi or ask questions. I also set up my classroom so it's ready for my first block tomorrow morning.

14: 5:00 PM – Bedtime

I spend time with my family, fine tune tomorrow's lesson for my Spanish I students, grade a test my Spanish II students took, and prepare for the next day.