

"Ah, man this is gonna be cool!"

"What do you think goes on inside this place?"

These were a couple of the expressions that could be heard as eighth grade students from area schools piled out of a bus

Shadow Day emphasized the Thirteen Necessary Skills (identified by the Iowa Association of Business and Industry) needed in every career opportunity versus matching students to potential career aspirations.

Rock Island District volunteers paired up with two eighth-grade students each for the event. Volunteers showed the students how they use basic skills everyday in their jobs.

Randy Jo Johnson, Williams Intermediate School, shadowed Kevin Landwehr, Engineering Division, and said she learned a lot. "I think it opens up

Barati, Information Management, had no problem keeping his students attention as he taught them how the Corps uses the information superhighway.

"It was pretty neat, I learned a lot," said Brent Hesseltine, Williams Intermediate School. "He told me a lot about how to make webpages. This shows students a little bit about what they might be doing in the future."

Although the program was a success this year, Justine Dodge, coordinator for the event, said some concerns were brought up about the program.

"A number of volunteers also wanted students to be matched with hosts who have careers they are interested in. This is another issue brought up with Junior Achievement.

Unfortunately, the career interests are disproportionate to the hosts involved. Last year, almost 70 percent of the students wanted to be DJs, rock stars, sports stars, and television stars. Due to this imbalance in interests, Junior Achievement determined it was better to show students how basic skills are used in every job. Thereby, increasing their interest in academic subjects and opening their eyes to the different work fields out in the 'real world.'" 



Did You See Your Shadow?

By Mark A. Kane, Public Affairs

outside the Clock Tower Building at the Rock Island District.

On Feb. 2, 1999 those students were given the opportunity to get a closer look at the world of our work and how the knowledge and basic skills they learn at school can be put into action. Through Junior Achievement's Groundhog Job Shadow Day, students and workplace hosts brought "Basic Skills to Life."

This year, the focus of Groundhog Job

people's minds to what kinds of jobs are out there and what people do," said Johnson.

"They can learn how to work on a job and work with people and be cooperative," said Kurt Winters, Williams Intermediate School. "I think it's a good thing at my age to start looking ahead to my own future and career possibilities ... it will come faster than you think."

Here in the information age Damon



“I think it opens up people’s minds to what kinds of jobs are out there and what people do.”

- Randy Jo Johnson

Photo by Mark A. Kane, Public Affairs

Randy Jo Johnson, Williams Intermediate School, and a fellow student race to finish the lock and dam puzzle inside the Mississippi River Visitor Center during Groundhog Job Shadow Day at the Rock Island District.

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Photo by Mark A. Kane, Public Affairs

Bob Wild, Operations Division, explains how the water rises in the lock to Groundhog Job Shadow Day students at Locks and Dam 15. Although the weather was a bit “nippy” that day, it didn’t stifle the interest the students had in the operation of Corps’ locks and dams.