

Forward

Imagine the most successful people you know in any field. Are they creative thinkers? Do they have incredible people skills? Do they stick up for themselves and others? These skills and abilities work across all career paths and life experiences. In a recent study done by *Forbes Magazine*, employers were surveyed about the top skills they are looking for in potential employees:

Top 10 Skills Employers Seek in Order of Importance

1. Ability to work on a team
2. Ability to make decisions and solve problems
3. Ability to plan, organize and prioritize work
4. Ability to communicate verbally with people inside and outside of an organization
5. Ability to obtain and process information
6. Ability to analyze quantitative data
7. Technical knowledge related to a job
8. Proficiency with computer software programs
9. Ability to create and/or edit written reports
10. Ability to sell and influence others

Ninety percent of this list is made up of skills that are not specific to any one career or field. These skills are learned over a lifetime and are not acquired daily through on-the-job training. Employers are saying that the things we have traditionally taught and valued for career readiness are not what they are finding to be the most valuable in the employees they seek to hire.

This book introduces career education in a creative, fun way! It emphasizes the 10 skills above and presents them from a child's worldview. I hope you enjoy using this book as much as I do!

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My name is Myrtle! And I'm Erytle...and we're twins!!!

We don't look alike. We don't act the same.

But there is one thing we do have in common...





We both **LOVE** shoes...of every size,
shape, color, and kind (and boots too)!

*There are shoes with laces
and shoes with faces
and shoes that go "Flip-Flop."*

*There are waffle stomper boots,
and wooden shoes called clogs.*

There are fuzzy, furry slippers
and shoes with pointy toes.
There are so many different shoes...
and they all **have different soles**.



Our mom and dad always tell us that when we grow up,
we can become whatever we want to be, as long as we have the right skills.

Last week, my dad sat both of us down on the “talk-to couch” and said:

“It’s **your choice** to choose
when you grow up
what you want to become.

But no matter what
your choice ends up being,
there are **SKILLS** that you must learn.”



"You have to be able to **TALK** to people
and you need to be able to **LISTEN**.
You've got to be able to **READ** and **WRITE**,
and **SCIENCE** and **MATH** can't be missing!"

