BUILDING A SUPPORT SYSTEM

A PERSONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM
Worksheet: None

1. Explain to learners that networking is an important skill needed to find a job. Ask, Can anyone tell me what networking is? Some answers are using personal and professional contacts to find a job or get ahead in a job; volunteering at a place so they get to know your skills; talking to neighbors or people at your church about the kind of job you want (if you want a job at a veterinarian’s office, talk to someone at the office); post messages on chat rooms; talk to people in stores you shop in. Inform learners that many people ask a friend or family member to recommend a doctor, mechanic or a good place to eat, so why not ask these people if they know of any job openings.

2. Have pairs of learners role-play situations where people are networking for a job: (a) You are looking for a summer job and you ask a family member if there is an opening at his workplace. (b) You want to apply at a large company in your neighborhood and you ask a neighbor if he knows the name of a person there. (c) You are working in a library and you want to get experience working in sales. You use the Internet to find a discussion group of sales people. You then ask them for tips on finding a sales job.

HOBBIES
Worksheet: Page 42 Learner’s Workbook: Page 3

1. Ask the learners, What is the definition of a hobby? Write their definitions on the board or piece of paper. Compare their definition to the following definition: It is an activity or interest outside of one’s regular job and done primarily for pleasure.

2. Have the learners tell you all the hobbies they are involved in. Write their hobbies on the board or large piece of paper. Then categorize their hobbies. For example, some hobbies might be related to animals (bird watching, dog walking, dog training, horseback riding, fishing); others might be related to arts and crafts (beading, drawing, glassblowing, collaging, engraving, jewelry making, leatherwork, painting, scrapbooking, sewing, woodworking, photography); others might be related to electronics (amateur radio, designing and building computers); others to sports and other physical activities (boxing, basketball, cycling, football, aerobics, cheerleading, bowling, dance, running, golf). Explore other hobbies such as photography, performing arts, transportation, stargazing, collecting things, cooking, filmmaking, recording and mixing music.

3. Explain to the learners that through hobbies, they can meet new people and establish good contacts, such as getting to know a potential boss at the gym or finding work as a mechanic’s helper while taking a course on how to fix cars. Have learners complete worksheet page 42 and page 3 of the Learner’s Workbook. They can do the worksheet individually or working in pairs. Have them share their worksheets with the group.
HOBBIES

Hobbies are activities that you do regularly for fun or relaxation. Circle all the hobbies that you are involved in. Add your own list of things you consider a hobby.

- Dancing
- Computer Games
- Singing
- Running
- Gardening
- Swimming
- Reading
- Cooking
- Arts and Crafts
- Sewing
- Drawing
- Basketball

Pick two hobbies and list all the ways you can network to get a job using those hobbies. Here are some examples for you. (a) I love playing basketball. I can go into the local rec center or Boys and Girls Club and ask if they need help teaching kids how to play basketball after school. (b) I belong to a church group and my hobby is cooking. The church group is having a Thanksgiving dinner. I can volunteer to cook or I can ask the people at the church if they know where I can get a job using my skills in cooking. You never know if they have a friend who owns a restaurant.

Hobby #1

I can use this hobby to get a job by:

Hobby #2

I can use this hobby to get a job by: