The cover quiz can be found on page 3 of this guide. To create a digital quiz, you can use our template here.

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF
Career development expert Terina Allen shares words of wisdom about self-confidence.

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Individual Development and Identity
COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.4, RI.6-8.6, RI.6-8.8

BEFORE READING
Have students write down their dream career. If they haven’t imagined a career, have them choose one that’s a good fit for their interests and talents. Tell them that the career they choose for this exercise is not as important as the reflection they’ll do. Then have students write their answers to these questions: What talents do you possess that would make you good at this job? What contribution could you make to this profession that no one else could? Whom would you ask advice about your career, and why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
• What piece of advice in the article sticks with you the most, and why?
• Allen says that in pursuing your dream career, “if you don’t believe in yourself, it will be hard to get anyone else to believe in you.” Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?
• According to Allen, what role does positive feedback play in your career? Where can you seek out this feedback?

GET IN CHARACTER
Puppeteer Megan Piphus Peace describes how she landed the part of Gabrielle on Sesame Street.

SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS) STANDARD: Individual Development and Identity
COMMON CORE (CCSS) STANDARDS: RI.6-8.1, RI.6-8.3, RI.6-8.9, SL.6-8.1

BEFORE READING
Tell students they’ll read about a puppeteer. Ask: What skills and interests might a puppeteer have? What kinds of jobs might there be for a puppeteer?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
• When did Piphus Peace make the decision to become a puppeteer? How do you know?
• Piphus Peace says she never stopped working with puppets, even as she studied economics and worked in real estate. What can her experience tell us about how people find their careers?

CLOSING ACTIVITY
Pair this article with one of the recent TIME Edge articles that focus on careers: “A Life of Service” (October 13), “Eye of the Storm (October 6), “Caring for Kids” (September 21), “The Pet Doctor” (September 8). Have them note similarities and differences between the professions they’re reading about, and in the way people discover their careers. Then pair up students and have them conduct interviews with each other, playing themselves in their future career.
1. Chang opened her first pastry shop
   A. in 2000.
   B. in 2019.
   C. while working as a management consultant.
   D. this year.

2. Which statement best describes Chang’s career path?
   A. Becoming a chef was her childhood dream.
   B. She decided on pursuing a career in food right out of college.
   C. She discovered her career after trying out other jobs.
   D. Her career took shape mainly by accident.

3. Chang says she has “a pastry team that does the nuts and bolts of the pastry chefing.” She means that her team
   A. is still learning the basics of making pastry.
   B. makes the pastry while she manages the business.
   C. requires constant guidance on how to run the shop.
   D. is also certified to do mechanical work.

4. When Flour first opened,
   A. it was hugely successful.
   B. it got rave reviews in Boston food magazines.
   C. Chang was unsure whether it would eventually make a profit.
   D. Chang wondered if she had made the right decision by going into the pastry business.

5. Which characteristic of a pastry shop is the most important to Chang?
   A. that it makes a lot of money
   B. that it serves more than just pastries
   C. that she can sell the business after 20 years
   D. a welcoming environment

6. How does the final interview question add to the article?
   A. It tells us something personal about Chang.
   B. It explains how Chang ended up in her current role.
   C. It emphasizes the importance of Chang’s team.
   D. It provides inspiration for readers.

7. Why is “Counter Culture” an effective title for this article?

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