**Where do I begin?**

Exploring career options as an 11th or 12th grader is a crucial step toward shaping your future. Here's a streamlined approach to start, including how to utilize the Upptik platform:

**1. Self-Assessment**

- **Interests and Strengths**: Begin by assessing your interests, strengths, and values. Tools like career assessment tests can help identify potential career paths that align with your personal preferences and skills.

**2. Research**

- **Explore Careers**: Utilize resources like the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook and Upptik. Upptik offers detailed articles, descriptions about a broad array of careers, and "day in the life" videos that provide insights into daily responsibilities and the realities of various professions.
- **Informational Interviews**: Talk to professionals in fields you're interested in. They can provide valuable insights into their daily responsibilities and the realities of their professions.

**3. Experience**

- **Internships and Part-Time Jobs**: Gain firsthand experience through internships or part-time jobs. These opportunities not only provide practical experience but also help you understand what a day in the life of a profession looks like.
- **Volunteer**: Engaging in volunteer work can expose you to different roles and industries, expanding your understanding of possible career paths.

**4. Networking and Mentorship**

- **Upptik Community**: Engage with the Upptik community to connect with peers and professionals, gain advice, and find mentors who can guide you.
- **Career Fairs and Workshops**: Attend career fairs and workshops. These events are great for networking, learning more about industries, and discovering new career possibilities.

By integrating these steps with the rich resources available on Upptik, you'll enhance your ability to make informed decisions about your future career path