

Exploring companies

A very important step in the career orienteering process is the exploring of local companies to get an impression what the world of work is like in reality and to get an overview of the structures of a firm.

We usually have a three step approach. Information about the company is collected at school prior to the visit then the company is visited and then the visit is reflected (what did you find about the structure, the actual products, the production process...) during the lessons back at school. In the existing sample we visited a chemical firm in our village.

The students prepared presentations about what they expected from the firm as an apprentice and also what the firm might expect from them. This was presented and discussed with members of the personnel department.



In a second step personnel presented the various sections of the company and what they produced. They showed concrete examples from the working process



and students had a chance to gain their own experience by trying out some experiments.



In a third step the students were shown around the company and had a chance to get an idea of the production process. They saw the production itself as well as the distribution and the quality check. And they learned that a company in the chemical business very often has got departments that you would not necessarily conjoin with a chemical enterprise such as a sewage plant.



As we were not allowed to take any photos on the company ground except for the training building due to the fear of industrial espionage the short report ends with a photo of the whole group, students and employees before they start their tour round the company.

