

Understanding Your Child's **EXPLORE[®]** Results

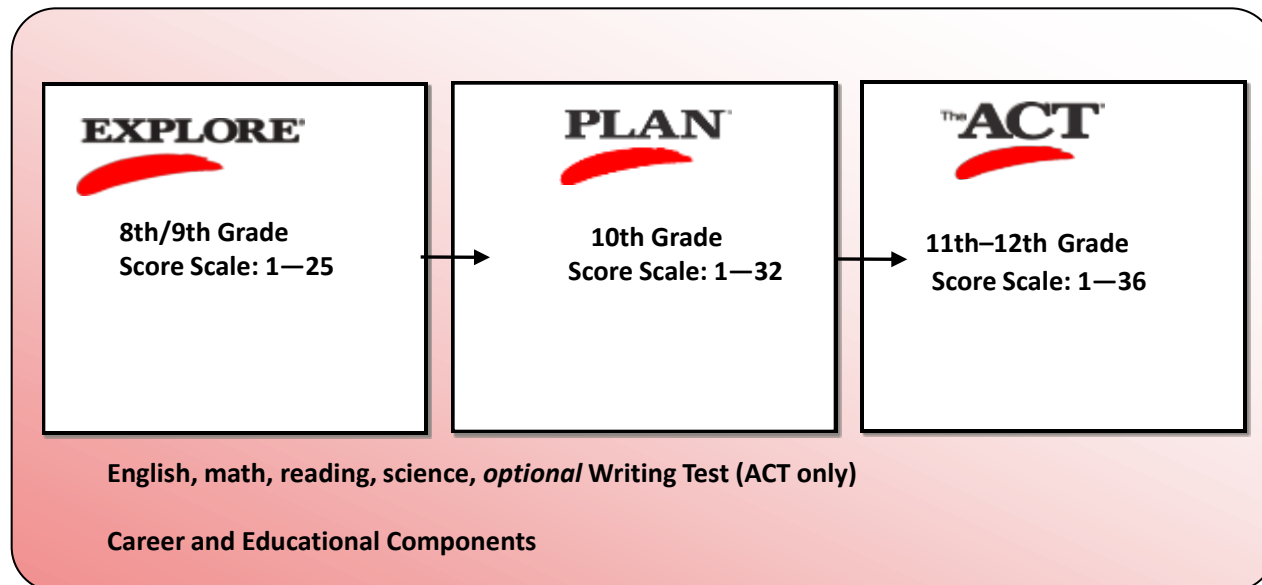
Preparing them for a
World of Possibilities
In High School and Beyond!



What is the EXPLORE?

It is part of ACT's College and Career Readiness System

The College Readiness System is a comprehensive program intended to help assist schools and districts in preparing every student for college and a career. The system is a fully aligned curriculum and research-based solution.



Why take the EXPLORE?

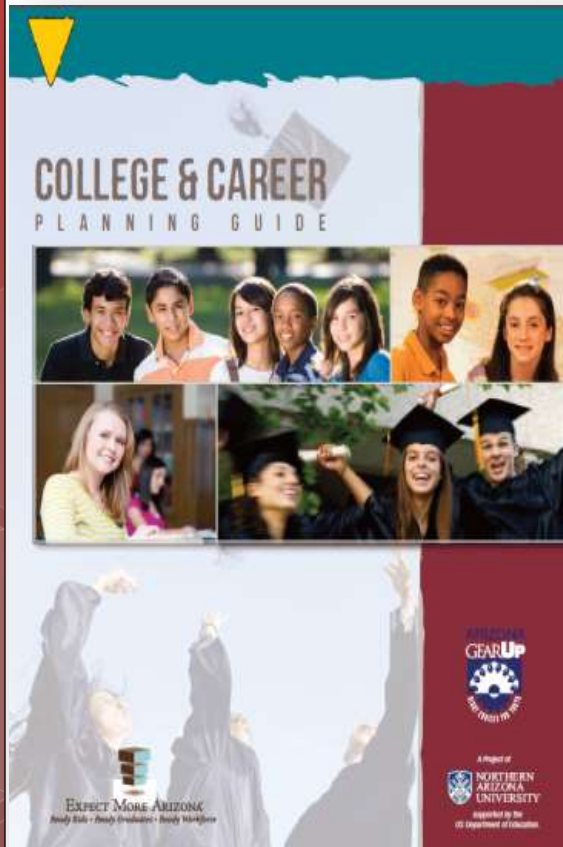
- EXPLORE shows your child's academic strengths and weaknesses in English, mathematics, reading, and science.
- EXPLORE helps your child search for careers and learn which ones might be right for them.
- EXPLORE helps your child choose high school courses that will prepare them for college and work.

EXPLORE Results will help your child:

- See what their academic skills are right now, and how they can improve them.
- Know if they are on track to be college ready.
- Think about careers.

It's Never Too Early to Start Planning!

Materials For This Session



COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING GUIDE

EXPECT MORE ARIZONA
Ready State • Ready Development • Ready Workforce

Arizona
GEARUP
READY TO SUCCEED

A part of
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
supported by the
AZ Department of Education

GRADE 8 PRECAP

Use your EXPLORE results to start planning your future and begin your Education & Career Action Plan (ECAP).
Student Name: _____ Date: _____

DREAM MY IDEAL CAREER

My career area preference on my EXPLORE Score Report is: _____
Other careers I might be interested in (from the shaded areas of the Career Area List): _____

PLAN MY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PLAN

The credential I need for my ideal career is (refer to College and Career Planning Guide, page 2, for descriptions):
 Certificate Associate Degree Bachelor's Degree Professional Degree License

The pathway through which I can get this credential (circle one or more):
 University Community College Apprenticeship Technical Institute Military

During high school, besides Math, Science, English and Social Studies, I may need to take these courses for my ideal career:

WORK HARD MY EXPLORE RESULTS

Composite _____ English _____ Mathematics _____ Reading _____ Science _____

Looking at my college readiness results on the EXPLORE, the courses I need help in are:
 English Math Reading Science

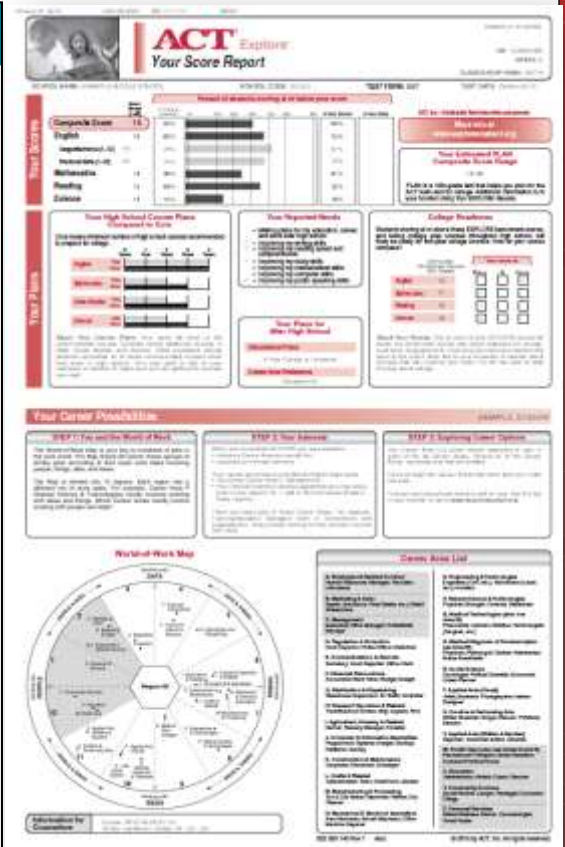
GET INVOLVED I understand that getting involved in my school and community will help me reach my future goals.

Clubs, activities, and/or volunteer work I may want to be involved with in high school:

I have reviewed my EXPLORE results: _____ **Student Signature** _____

I have reviewed my child's EXPLORE results: _____ **Parent Signature** _____

Counselor or School Official Signature



ACT Explore Your Score Report

Composite Score: 18

English: 18
 Mathematics: 18
 Reading: 18
 Science: 18

College Readiness

High School Course Plans

Required Credits

Your Career Possibilities

World of Work Map

Career Area List

Additional Materials



What's the test like?

EXPLORE includes four multiple-choice tests covering English, mathematics, reading, and science (the same subjects covered by the ACT test).

Subject	Number of Questions	How Long It Takes
English	40	30 minutes
Math	30	30 minutes
Reading	30	30 minutes
Science	28	30 minutes

EXPLORE also includes a 72 item interest inventory that asks questions about the types of work tasks your student would or would not like to do.

ACT Explore Your Score Report

Percent of students scoring at or below your score

Composite Score	Percent of students scoring at or below your score
23	95%
24	85%
25	75%
26	65%
27	55%
28	45%
29	35%
30	25%
31	15%
32	5%

Year Scores

Subject	Score	Percent of students scoring at or below your score
English	23	95%
Mathematics (I-IV)	24	85%
Reading	25	75%
Science	26	65%

Year High School Course Plans

Course	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
English	1	2	3	4
Mathematics	1	2	3	4
Reading	1	2	3	4
Science	1	2	3	4

Your Reported Needs

- Improving my study skills
- Improving my reading skills
- Improving my writing skills
- Improving my math skills
- Improving my science skills

College Readiness

Students scoring at or above your score have a 75% chance of being ready for college-level work.

Subject	Score	Percent of students scoring at or below your score
English	23	95%
Mathematics	24	85%
Reading	25	75%
Science	26	65%

Your Career Possibilities

STEP 1: You and the World of Work

STEP 2: Your Interests

STEP 3: Exploring Career Options

World of Work Map

Career Area List

- 1. Management, Business, Administration & Sales Operations
- 2. Business & Marketing Operations
- 3. Management & Operations
- 4. Business & Operations
- 5. Business & Operations
- 6. Business & Operations
- 7. Business & Operations
- 8. Business & Operations
- 9. Business & Operations
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- 50. Business & Operations

EXPLORE Score Report Side 1

Student/School Information

October 07, 2013	0049878943	PA 11111111	000001
	ACT Explore <i>Your Score Report</i>	EXAMPLE STUDENT	
SCHOOL NAME: EXAMPLE MIDDLE SCHOOL	SCHOOL CODE: 000000	TEST FORM: 8M7	TEST DATE: October 2013
			ID#: 00000000 00000000 CLASS/ROUPE NAME: SWTH

College Readiness benchmarks

What do they mean?

Test	College Course	8 th grade	10 th grade	11 th grade
		EXPLORE	PLAN	ACT
English	English Composition	13	15	18
Math	Algebra	17	19	22
Reading	Social Sciences	15	17	21
Science	Biology	20	21	24

50% chance of achieving a B or higher or about a 75% chance of achieving a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college course

College Readiness

College Readiness

Students scoring at or above these EXPLORE benchmark scores, and taking college prep courses throughout high school, will likely be ready for first-year college courses. How do your scores compare?

EXPLORE Benchmark Scores (8th Grade)		Your score is:		
		Below	At	Above
English	13	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics	17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading	16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science	18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

About Your Scores. One or more of your EXPLORE scores fall below the benchmark scores that show readiness for college-level work. Suggestions for improving your skills are listed on the back of this report. Also, talk to your counselor or teacher about courses that can improve your skills. It's not too early to start thinking about college.

Your Child's Estimated PLAN[®] Composite Score Range

ACT, Inc.—Confidential Restricted when data present.

More Info at
www.explorestudent.org

**Your Estimated PLAN
Composite Score Range**

15-18

PLAN is a 10th-grade test that helps you plan for the ACT tests and for college. Additional information is in your booklet *Using Your EXPLORE Results*.

Student Scores

Your Scores

		Score Range (1-25)	Percent of students scoring at or below your score							In Your School	In Your State	
			In the U.S. (Fall 8th)	1%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%	99%		
Composite Score	15		53%								60%	
English	16		69%								75%	
Usage/Mechanics (1-12)	09		78%								87%	
Rhetorical Skills (1-12)	08		70%								74%	
Mathematics	14		36%								41%	
Reading	15		64%								72%	
Science	13		15%								18%	

Areas in Which Your Child Would Like Additional Help

Your Reported Needs

- Making plans for my education, career, and work after high school
- ✓ • Improving my writing skills
- ✓ • Improving my reading speed and comprehension
- ✓ • Improving my study skills
- Improving my mathematical skills
- Improving my computer skills
- ✓ • Improving my public speaking skills

Your Child's Plans for After High School

Your Plans for After High School

Educational Plans

4-Year College or University

Career Area Preference

Management

Interest Inventory & The Holland Codes

“The choice of a vocation is an expression of personality”

72 interest inventory questions generate scores associated with theory:

Realistic - practical, physical, hands-on, tool-oriented

Investigative - analytical, intellectual, scientific, explorative

Artistic - creative, original, independent, chaotic

Social - cooperative, supporting, helping, healing/nurturing

Enterprising - competitive environments, leadership, persuading

Conventional - detail-oriented, organizing, clerical

Why Think About College Now ?

COLLEGE & CAREER
PLANNING GUIDE

EXPECT MORE ARIZONA
Beady Bide • Beady Graduate • Beady Workforce

GEARUp
Get Ready to Succeed

A Project of
NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
Approved by the
AZ Department of Education

WELCOME

DEAR ARIZONA STUDENT,

When I was young, I had big dreams for my future. Thanks to the support and encouragement of my parents, teachers and friends, I worked my way through high school and graduated from college.

One of the first lessons I learned early on was that in order to achieve my dreams, I had to work hard and be committed. I also learned that it's never too early to start planning and preparing for the life you want after high school.

Using this brochure as your guide, both you and your family can work together to plan and prepare for the variety of opportunities that lie ahead for you. High school graduation is no longer the finish line. Postsecondary education is a must and is an option for every student. You just have to take proactive steps to get there.

Good luck, and remember, don't ever give up on your dreams. All things are possible. And don't be afraid to ask for help along the way!

God Bless,

Kurt Warner

Message From Kurt Warner
Page 1

Four Steps to Success

FOUR STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL AND REWARDING LIFE

STEP 1

 **DREAM**

The first step to success is to *dream*. Envision your ideal life. What kind of lifestyle do you want to have? How do you want to spend your time? How might your interests and talents be used in an ideal job? What could you do to make the world a better place? Give yourself the freedom to dream big about your future.

STEP 2

 **PLAN**

Planning is the critical second step to success. Once you've pictured the life you want, you'll need to figure out the steps to get there. Regardless of the career you envision for yourself, you will need training beyond high school to get there. And, you will need to complete specific classes in high school. So, starting with your goal in mind, work backwards to figure out what you need to be doing now, and throughout high school, to prepare for the education or training you will need after high school.

STEP 3

 **WORK HARD**

Working hard is the third step to achieving your goals. There is no substitute for hard work and determination. As you take the steps toward your own successful future, challenge yourself and always give 100% effort to your school work and your out-of-school activities. Performing well academically not only opens doors for you, but also gives you the personal satisfaction of knowing that you did your best.

STEP 4

 **TRACK**

You've got a dream, you've got a plan, and you're working hard! But unless you keep *track* of the progress you're making to achieve your goals, it can be easy to get off-track along the way. Use this Guide to help you dream, commit to your plan (write it down), and then keep track of your progress as you go along. Use the grade-by-grade checklists in this Guide to help make keeping track easier.

What does college cost?

10 TIPS...

TO FINDING MONEY

- 1 LEARN ABOUT FINANCIAL AID.** Learn as much as you can now about the funding opportunities available for college. There is both need-based and merit-based aid. Aid may come from federal, state, local and private sources. Visit Web sites such as www.studentaid.ed.gov to begin the process. Many schools also have payment plans to help students spread out their payments.
- 2 VISIT FINANCIAL AID OFFICES.** When you have narrowed your search for possible schools, visit each financial aid office and meet with a financial aid counselor; if this isn't possible, request written information from the financial aid offices.
- 3 SUBMIT A FAFSA.** Submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) by February 14 of your senior year. Even if you don't receive federal grant assistance, the FAFSA is required for other types of assistance. Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov to learn more and to complete your FAFSA.
- 4 KNOW YOUR DEADLINES.** Make sure you turn your applications in as early as acceptable. If another person (such as your guidance counselor) has to complete information for you, make sure he/she knows your deadline date.
- 5 SAVE YOUR MONEY.** Any money that you save or start putting aside before you graduate high school will be helpful with the costs of college later. Visit your local bank to open a savings account for your deposits. If you receive monetary gifts from family or friends, put at least half in your college-savings bank account.
- 6 EXPLORE ALL YOUR OPTIONS.** Find out if your parents' workplaces offer scholarships for children of employees. If so, apply for them!
- 7 FIND FREE MONEY.** Use free scholarship searches such as www.FastWeb.com, www.finaid.org, www.azfoundation.org/static/Scholarships/currentOpportunities.shtml, and www.pay4collegearizona.gov to learn about scholarships.
- 8 ASK ABOUT WORK-STUDY PROGRAMS.** Ask about work-study jobs when you apply for financial aid. Employment at your school can benefit you in many ways.
- 9 SAVE SMART.** Consider opening a tax-advantaged college savings account such as the Arizona Family College Savings (529) Program or Coverdale Educational Savings Account. Contributions to a 529 college savings account can grow tax-free and distributions are not taxed when used for qualified higher education expenses such as tuition, books and fees. See www.az529.gov for more information.
- 10 BE PERSISTENT.** Explore any and all organizations that might be offering scholarships including churches, your parent's employers and civic organizations.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010-11, there was more than \$227.2 billion in financial aid distributed to graduate and undergraduate students.

Source: http://www.collegeboard.org/resources/Student_Aid_2011.pdf

WHAT DOES COLLEGE COST?

Going to college full-time in Arizona can cost annually anywhere from \$3,000 to attend a community college (while living at home) to \$21,000 for a public university (living on campus) for tuition, book, fees and housing. You need to plan ahead by saving, applying for financial assistance and/or competing for scholarships. Don't assume you cannot afford college. There are many resources available. Find more at finaid.org and www.studentaid.ed.gov.



What is a PreECAP?

Please look for your student's PreECAP – Parents, please review this with your child and return to the school with your signature.

GRADE 8 PreECAP

Use your EXPLORE results to start planning your future and begin your Education & Career Action Plan (ECAP).

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

DREAM MY IDEAL CAREER

My career area preference on my EXPLORE Score Report is: _____

Other careers I might be interested in (from the shaded areas of the Career Area List):

PLAN MY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PLAN

The credential I need for my ideal career is (refer to College and Career Planning Guide, page 2, for descriptions):
 Certificate Associate Degree Bachelor's Degree Professional Degree License

The pathway through which I can get this credential (circle one or more):
 University Community College Apprenticeship Technical Institute Military

During high school, besides Math, Science, English and Social Studies, I may need to take these courses for my ideal career:

WORK HARD MY EXPLORE RESULTS

Composite _____ English _____ Mathematics _____ Reading _____ Science _____

Looking at my college readiness results on the EXPLORE, the courses I need help in are:
 English Math Reading Science



GET INVOLVED I understand that getting involved in my school and community will help me reach my future goals.

Clubs, activities, and/or volunteer work I may want to be involved with in high school:

I have reviewed my EXPLORE results: _____ Student Signature

I have reviewed my child's EXPLORE results: _____ Parent Signature

_____ Counselor or School Official Signature

Keys to Good Educational and Career Planning



- Explore the many career options available and think about how their career choices will affect their future.



- Set career goals and develop an educational plan to achieve them.



- Students should take challenging college prep courses in high school.

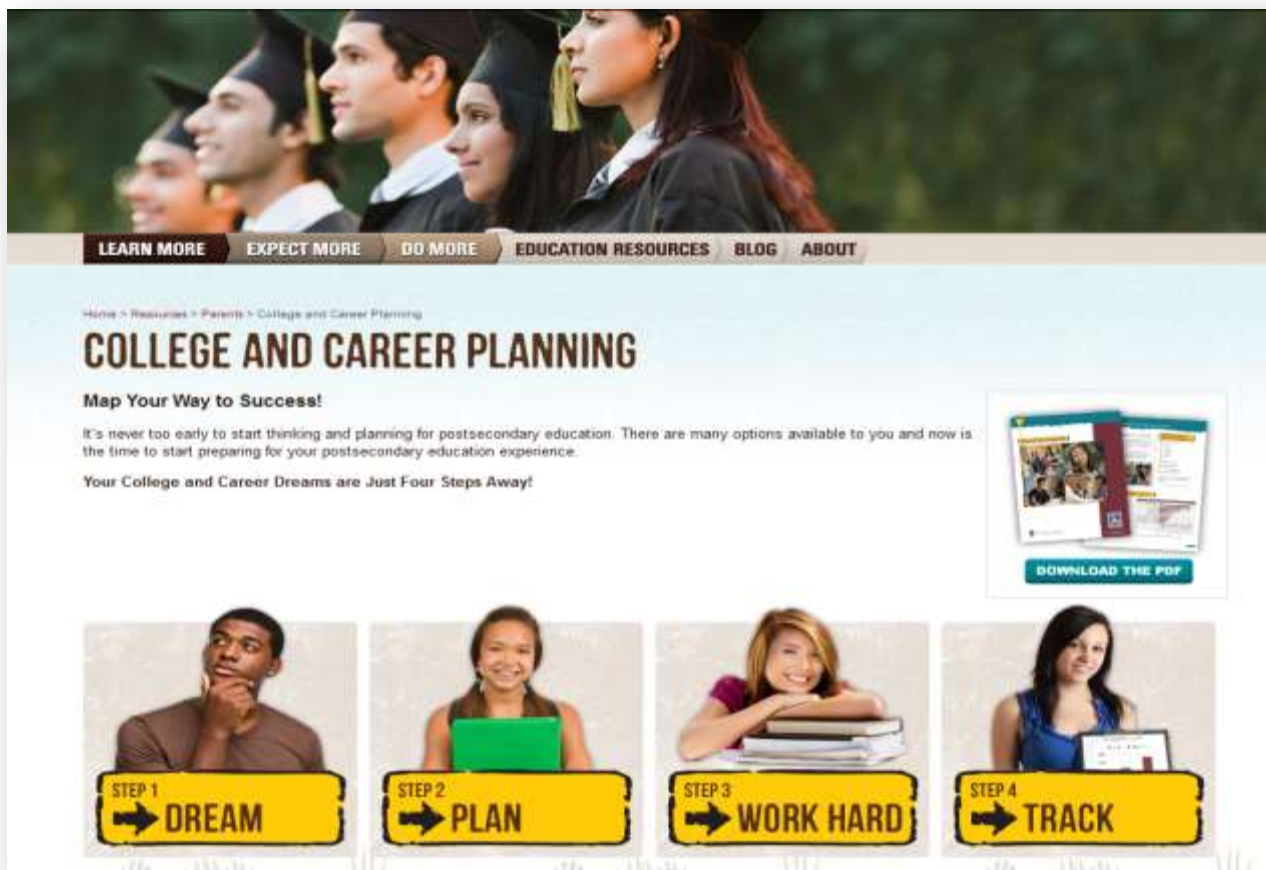
Dream Big... and Go For It!

Your Child should now:

- Think about what they have learned about themselves from the EXPLORE Results.
- Study hard and take the right courses in high school.
- Ask for help when they need it, from teachers, counselors and parents.
- Remember every day in school and every test they take is important for their future –
- They should always do their best!



Check out EXPECT MORE ARIZONA Website for Parent Resources along with the College and Career Planning Guide.



The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with links: LEARN MORE, EXPECT MORE, DO MORE, EDUCATION RESOURCES, BLOG, and ABOUT. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Resources > Parents > College and Career Planning. The main heading is "COLLEGE AND CAREER PLANNING". Below the heading is the sub-heading "Map Your Way to Success!". The main text reads: "It's never too early to start thinking and planning for postsecondary education. There are many options available to you and now is the time to start preparing for your postsecondary education experience. Your College and Career Dreams are Just Four Steps Away!". To the right of the text is a thumbnail image of a PDF document with a "DOWNLOAD THE PDF" button. Below the text and thumbnail are four steps, each with a photo of a student and a yellow button with an arrow pointing right:

- STEP 1: DREAM
- STEP 2: PLAN
- STEP 3: WORK HARD
- STEP 4: TRACK

<http://www.expectmorearizona.org/resources/parents/>



Information for Parents
Test FAQ
ACT Test
EXPLORE Test
PLAN Test
WorkKeys Test
College Planning
Student Stories
Parent Newsletter
Tools & Resources

Frequently Asked Questions about the EXPLORE® Test

The [EXPLORE](#)® program prepares eighth- and ninth-graders for their high school coursework and their post-high school choices. EXPLORE tests have content similar to the [PLAN](#)® and [the ACT](#)®.

- [Why should my kid take EXPLORE?](#)
- [What's the test like?](#)
- [How do we sign up?](#)

Why should my kid take EXPLORE?

EXPLORE helps students identify areas of academic strength and weakness in four areas important for success in

Visit the **EXPLORE**® student site 

[Using EXPLORE and PLAN to Get Ready for College](#)
This five-minute video illustrates how ACT's EXPLORE and PLAN programs can help students get ready for college.

[Using EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT test scores](#)

<http://www.act.org/path/parent/tests/explore.html>