

## Job Shadow Program Continues Thanks to Local Businesses

During the 2009-2010 school year, 292 8th graders at DeSoto Middle School experienced the world of work at local businesses. This career exploration activity known as job shadowing provides teenagers with an up-close look at the world of work and gives them the opportunity to observe an employee as they go through their normal day on the job. It also gives them a chance to see how skills, attitudes and behaviors they develop in school connect to the workplace. Students observed professionals in occupations such as accountant, carpenter, chef, golf course manager, landscape designer, pediatrician, store manager, surveyor, truck driver and many more. A total of 69 local businesses participated in last year's job shadowing program.

DeSoto Middle School and Career Counselor, Leslie Bickett, would like to express their sincere gratitude to all participating businesses and workplace mentors. Without their cooperation and support, this program could not continue to be successful. The following business partners provided job shadowing experiences:

Animal Ark of Arcadia	First Baptist Church Weekday Preschool
Arcadia Chiropractic Clinic, Inc.	Florida Department of Transportation
Arcadia Municipal Golf Course	Fussell's Frozen Foods Inc.
Arcadia Police Department	Hackney, Ames & Heitman
B & T Surveyor	Dr. Anna Hernandez, MD
Beef-O-Brady's	Holiday Inn Express
Bethel Farms	Dr. Leslie Krajcovic, DMD
Bob's Transmissions	LBJ Trucking
The Bull FM – Heartland Broadcasting	The Learning Tree
C & D Computers	Mary Margaret's Tea & Biscuit
Cab Co. – Directional Boring	Memorial Elementary School
Canoe Outpost Peace River Inc.	Murphy's Landscaping
Cato	Peddler's Boutique
Chilis	Pizza Hut
The Cutting Edge	Radio Shack
Crankshaw Veterinary Services	Sassy Chix Salon
DeSoto Collision & Repair	Seacoast National Bank
DeSoto Co. Administration	Shear Talent
DeSoto Co. Animal Services	Sheriff's Office
DeSoto Co. Clerk of Court	South Florida Community College
DeSoto Co. Fire & Rescue	South Florida Irrigation
DeSoto Co. High School	South & South Auto Repair
DeSoto Co. Judge's Office	Sparkles Boutique
DeSoto Co. Library	Specialty Aluminum
DeSoto Co. School's Early Childhood Center	Summer Days Spa
DeSoto Co. Transportation Division	Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union
DeSoto Health & Rehabilitation Center	Timeless Memories Photography
DeSoto Marine Outfitters	V.C. Hollingsworth Ranch
DeSoto Memorial Hospital	Wal-Mart
DeSoto Sign Co.	West Elementary School
DeSoto Sun – The Arcadian	WFLN 1480 AM
DeSoto Veterinary Services	Wickey Woodshop Concepts
Downtown Athletic Club	Winn Dixie
Eugene H. Turner & Son	
Family Af'hair Styles	
Fantastic Sam's	

Businesses who would like to participate in the job shadowing program during the coming school year are encouraged to contact Leslie Bickett at DeSoto Middle School, 494-4133 ext. 269 or [leslie.bickett@desoto.k12.fl.us](mailto:leslie.bickett@desoto.k12.fl.us).

