

Enrichment Activity for Automotive Service

One idea I came up with as a summer enrichment activity for students was an at home vehicle inspection on one of their parent's, family member's, or a neighbor's vehicle. This activity can be done at home safely because it doesn't require jacking of the vehicle. It will be strictly under the hood and the interior of the automobile.

The inspection that will take place is called a "Courtesy Check". Most auto shops provide this inspection free of charge to customers that render service from them. This service is free because the courtesy check is a way to make additional money on top of what was already requested as well as help vehicle owner's take care of the second most expensive investment they will have. Not only will it help them take care of their vehicle but it also looks out for their safety and well being. (This is a win win situation with the auto shop being able to make money and the customer being able to protect their investment.)

Ex: A customer comes into a shop and request a tire rotation. Tire rotation are generally very inexpensive and at some places are even free. A courtesy check is done free of charge to check various fluids, tires, air filters (engine and cabin filter), wiper blades and many other things will be inspected for irregularities.

The supplies that will be needed and hopefully supplied will be an inspection form, tire pressure gauge, tread depth gauge, blue or black ink pen (ink can't be erased, pens are a technicians' best friend and inspection forms are a legal document), safety glasses, mini flash light and a brake/coolant test strip. The supplies on this list are very inexpensive and some we actually have to supply through donations or what we have already.

This activity can be done by the student with little to no help from the instructor. This assignment can be done through a zoom meeting with their instructor and the student can be guided through the video call.

What's in it for the parents or community?

The parents can protect their second most expensive investment through their child/children. I think this can be a fun experience for the student and the parent(s).