

6-8th TALKING TIPS: Share Your Career Story

Prep: The guest speaker and teacher will review this document prior to the classroom visit.

Pro-tip: Strive to be casual and authentic with middle school students.

Hi everyone. My name's _____ and I'm here to tell you how I came to be a _____."

Business Owner-Manager, Entrepreneur, Volunteer, Mayor, City Council member, etc.

But first, let's play a round of: **Tell Me Something I Don't Know!** Allow 20 minutes and make sure the teacher has secured an object (like a ball) to toss around. 😎

Begin at AlaskanOwned.com's Community page. Have each student (or teams due to class size) call out a link to browse for 5-7 minutes. Ask them to jot down a "Did you know" fact. Something intriguing, surprising, or even weird! Skip the Regional News section.

Announce that you and the teacher will keep score of the most interesting facts through roundtable voting from 1 to 5. Students vote with a show of fingers. 1 = least interesting.

Make a circle and gently toss the ball to the first student. That student names the link they studied, shares their fact, then takes a step backward. Everyone votes on how interesting the fact is or isn't. Voting can be secret (behind their backs). Adults tally results. The ball is tossed to the next student, etc. Pace of the game is determined by class size.

The student who offers the most interesting fact wins and takes a bow to receive applause.

LESSON: There's always something new to learn. Find legitimate sources, be curious, and have fun along the way. Maintain the circle if it's comfortable to share **some** of your career story.

Highlight your first relevant job (paid or unpaid). What age were you? Interesting details?

Explain why you chose: College, Military, Vocational, Intern, OJT, Mentor? Share how you came to be in your current role. Any unusual twists or turns? Offer a brief description of the primary components of your role. Ask for questions.

Optional: The teacher can decide to include coloring pages or word search puzzles as part of this activity (printable from the AlaskanOwned.com Classroom Visits page).

Guest speakers and teachers are encouraged to complete our Feedback Form @ AlaskanOwned.com on the Classroom Visits page. Once a quarter, we draw names to send small gifts to teachers and students.