Virtual Reality Career Kits

Libraries Supporting Job Seekers in New Ways

Meaghan Brown and Michelle Lopez
Redland City Council Libraries

THE CHALLENGE – CAREER DECISIONS CAN BE HARD

- LIMITED EXPOSURE TO WORKPLACES AND INDUSTRIES
- UNCERTAINTY ABOUT CAREER PATHWAYS
- LOW CONFIDENCE WITH INTERVIEWS
- NEED FOR PRACTICAL, ENGAGING CAREER EDUCATION

THE OPPORTUNTIY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

REDLAND CITY COUNCIL LIBRARIES + WORKFORCE AUSTRALIA LOCAL JOBS PROGRAM

Together we combined funding, community access, lending expertise and immersive technology.

OUTCOME

A free VR Career Kit for community organisations supporting job seekers.

WHAT'S IN THE KIT?

VR CAREER KIT

- 5 x Meta Quest 3 Headsets
- Handheld Controllers
- Charging Cables
- Power Adaptor
- Rechargeable Batteries

USERS CAN

- Explore different industries
- Experience workplace simulations
- Talk virtual workplace tours
- Practise interview skills

CAREER'S CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

- Accounting
- Agronomist
- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer
- Architect
- Bioprocessing Scientist
- Boilermaker
- Carpenter
- Chef
- Civil Engineer
- Cotton Farmer
- Counsellor
- Dentist
- Electrical Engineer
- Enrolled Nurse
- Event Manager
- Exercise Physiologist
- Firefighter
- Fitter and Turner
- Hotel Manager
- Industrial Designer
- Interior Designer
- Landscape Architect
- Lawyer (Business)
- Marine Biologist
- Marketing
- Mechatronic Engineer
- Molecular Microbiologist
- Naval Architect
- Occupational Therapist
- Park Ranger
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Podiatrist
- Quantity Surveyor
- Sheet Metal Fabrication
- Stage Actor
- Surgeon (Orthopaedics)
- Stage Actor
- Timber Researcher
- Tour Guide
- Town Planner
- Water Engineer

JOB INTERVIEW
SIMULATOR
WORK
WINDOW

THE LIBRARY'S ROLE

THE LIBRARY DID MORE THAN LEND THE TECHNOLOGY, REDLAND CITY COUNCIL LIBRARIES:

- Catalogued the kits
- Built the booking and loan model
- Created staff instructions and borrower guides
- Developed promotional resources
- Delivered orientation and support

WHO CAN BORROW?

AVAILABLE TO

Schools

Registered training organisations

Workforce Australia providers

Disability employment service providers
Community groups supporting job seekers

WHY ORGANISATIONAL LENDING?

Reaches more participants

Supports structured programs

Maximises community impact

WHAT USERS ARE SAYING

“The VR headsets were a hit with our students. They appreciated practising interview skills and learning about different industries.”

“We have used the VR headsets twice. The collection and drop off process was easy. We used them with our Year 10's and they were a hit.. I think they are a wonderful idea and helpful in engaging students for career education.”

“It is great to offer our participants a different way of exploring careers – and be able to borrow it for free.”

WHAT WE LEARNED

- START WITH THE COMMUNITY OUTCOME
- BUILD STRONG PARTNERSHIPS
- CREATE A CLEAR LENDING AND SUPPORT MODEL
- KEEP TRAINING SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL
- PROMOTE THROUGH SCHOOLS, EMPLOYMENT, COMMUNITY NETWORKS

THANK YOU!