



**W**hen it comes to finding your passion in life,

there's a saying that comes to mind: "If you love what you do, you'll never have to work a day in your life." We want you to have a fire in your belly, a reason to get out of bed in the morning (other than "to get paid"). Feel that excitement you've got right now – the feeling that YOU can achieve anything you want? But what is it you actually want? We're here to help you figure it out...

*\* What do you want to do all day?*

Lisa O'Brien from CareersCoach (careerscoach.com.au) says, "When deciding on a potential career path, it's a great idea to start by considering what you are interested in and what you're good at". Like shopping? Become a personal shopper. Enjoy video games? Video-game designing could be right for you!

*\* When I grow up...*

What did you want to be when you were a child? This may seem redundant now that you're older, but the jobs we thought were cool when we were younger weren't hampered by fears of failure – something you may be feeling right now. One of the most important things to do is to nurture your dreams; don't squish them into a little corner, because they're one of the only things that define us as individuals.

*\* Find the Fire*

Think about the moments in life that made you feel alive – they could be related to travel, creativity or teaching people – and find a career that branches off that.

*\* What obstacles do you need to overcome?*

Be it tertiary education or hands-on experience, the more knowledge you have of your chosen

field, the better prepared you'll be to achieve your goals.

*\* Is money everything?*

Lisa suggests, "Consider the type of life you want to have: How much do you want to earn? What sort of work hours would you like to have? Would you want to travel as part of your job?". Sure, we need money to survive, but one way to identify your passion is by asking yourself, "Would I be happy if, for some reason in the future, this job paid not with money, but with a smile and a thank you every day?". How do you feel?

*\* Parental guidance*

When it comes to parents, there's one thing you need to know: They want the best for you – seriously. So of course they're going to have opinions on what career path you should take. Lisa says, "In terms of dealing with parents, the best way to put their minds at ease is to show them that you're researching all of the options – including theirs". Find out why they want you to pursue that career, and if it's not what you want to pursue, try to include how you can achieve that factor in your chosen career path. "For example, if they want you to be a GP because it pays well, but you want to be a fashion designer, show them that you've researched a way to build a successful career in fashion design."

*\* Fork in the road*

Sure, it'd be great if you only had to make one career decision in your life, but these days it's not uncommon for people to pursue several careers throughout their lifetime. "Remember that you are allowed to change your mind along the way," says Lisa. "In fact, during your life you will probably change career paths a few times. For that reason, it's really good to research how you can start in one career path but branch out to another."

# What's your **PASSION?**

If you don't know what you want to do, it can be hard to start pursuing your goals. We're here to help you find your passion.