## **NEXT STEPS**

As is true for many people, your General Occupational Themes, Basic Interests, and Occupations have some characteristics in common, but they do not all reflect the same Themes. This may mean that you have a variety of interests in work, leisure activities, and school subjects. Use any of the Themes in your report in your exploration. Some of your diverse interests may be expressed in a job that provides a lot of variety, or they may be reflected in a balance in your life between work and leisure activities.

## **ACTION STEPS**

- 1. Using the summary chart on the preceding page or any of the descriptors you highlighted in this report or on your Strong Profile, create a master list of all descriptors that either describe you or appeal to you. Take this list with you to any informational or job interviews you attend. During the interview, ask questions to determine whether there are opportunities to express these interests or engage in these activities and try to determine whether there is a good fit between your interests and the job you are considering. For example, if you highlighted Creative, flexible, self-expressive, ask about opportunities to express this interest.
- 2. Your *Strong* results can also help you during your career exploration. Your Artistic Theme score suggests that the career planning process may at times seem too goal directed and structured, requiring you to be more practical than you like to be. To keep yourself motivated:
  - Try some creative ways to research occupations—collect pictures from magazines and create a collage of work-related activities that interest you or write down some of your career fantasies and talk them over with a friend
  - Check out occupational videotapes from the library
  - Visit some classes before you enroll in a career-related educational program to make sure the training is interesting and fits your learning style
  - Ask a close friend to keep you on target with your decision making so you don't go off in too many directions at once

## THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES WILL BE HELPFUL

- Where Do I Go Next? Using Your Strong Results to Manage Your Career. This booklet can help you better
  understand the meaning of your Strong results and provides worksheets to help you in your career
  exploration.
- The O\*NET™ database (www.onetcenter.org) for career information. For additional information about tasks, knowledge, skills, and abilities, and for other information about specific occupations, click on the link O\*NET™ Online.
- Dictionary of Holland Occupational Codes. This guide can help you find additional occupations related to each Theme.
- CPP, Inc., at www.cpp.com. Visit the CPP Web site for resources on the Strong and on career exploration.
- Expand your self-knowledge by taking the MBTI® and/or FIRO-B® instrument or the Career Beliefs Inventory.
   See your career professional.
- Books and Web links suggested by your career professional.

