

Lesson Plan

Topic: Careers

Title: Exploring Professions

For: Grade 9

Length of Time Needed: 50 minutes

Materials Needed:

1. White board
2. Computer with internet
3. Exploring Careers Worksheet and Interview Questions Guide

Objectives:

1. Students will identify several different professions.
2. Students will identify characteristics involved in various careers such as education, training, job demand, and personal attributes necessary for success.
3. Students will gain insight into what career path may be appropriate for them.

Activity:

1. Explain to students they will be spending time exploring different careers. Have them list three careers they have ever daydreamed about performing.
2. As a class, share and list different careers on the white board.
3. Instruct students to choose a profession most interesting to them to research. The list on the board may assist them in coming up with a profession if they don't already have an idea as to what they want to do.
4. Students should research their profession using the internet and complete the Exploring Careers Worksheet. A list of resources and suggested websites may be found on the Exploring Career Worksheet if students need assistance.
5. Students should seek out someone in their chosen profession to interview before the next class meeting. Students may need to ask family and friends for references to identify someone. They may also contact local businesses.
6. Students may use the suggested interview questions or modify some of them to better fit their profession (prior approval required).
7. Students should write a two page summary of their findings. The paper should include:
 - General summary describing the profession
 - Duties involved
 - Education or training involved to prepare for this position/other necessary attributes
 - Salary information

- Availability of positions (job demand)
 - Conclude with how your opinion may have changed about this position from completing this project. Are you less or more interested in pursuing this career as a result of this project?
8. Students should be prepared to share their summary with the class so other students may benefit from their research.

Evaluation: Orally, ask the following questions after the presentation.

1. What did you find to be some of the most important attributes of the profession you researched? Which of these do you feel you have?
2. Were you surprised when researching and interviewing to find out the necessary education or training that was involved in preparing for this profession?
3. Did you find any other professions discussed in class interesting? Might any of them also be a possibility for you?
4. What aspects should you consider before choosing a career?
5. In addition to class discussion, the Exploring Careers worksheet and summary paper will be submitted for evaluation.

ASCA National Standard:

Career Development Standard C: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions.

Competency: To develop career awareness, students will learn about the variety of traditional and non-traditional occupations.

Resources:

Quintessential Careers

www.quintcareers.com/teen_jobs

Self-Directed Search Sample Report

www.self-directed-search.com/sdsreprt

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Date:

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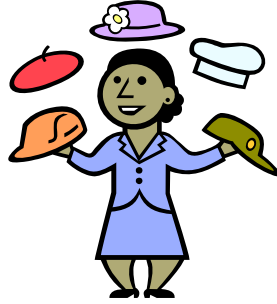
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Exploring Careers

Students should research a chosen profession or career using the internet and answer the following questions.



- Which profession have you chosen to research?
- What is the primary goal of this profession?
- What type of education or experience is required for this profession.
- What about this profession is most interesting to you?

The following websites and sources may be helpful in finding information.

Chronicle Occupational Briefs. Four-page briefs that tell about the type of job activities, working conditions, and earnings of different occupations. chronicleguidance.com.

Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT). A book that provides brief descriptions of the work done in over 12,000 occupations. parinc.com.

Guide for Occupational Exploration (GOE). A book describing hundreds of occupations, training programs, and leisure activities. Available from JIST Works, Inc.

Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH). The best single source of occupational information, published every 2 years by the U.S. Department of Labor. It has detailed, current information about hundreds of occupations. [Available from JIST Works, Inc., or U.S. Department of Labor.

Career Interview Questions



The following questions should serve as a guide for your interview. With instructor's approval you may substitute questions for any of the following. Submit your questions with your summary.

1. Describe the activities in a typical day in your job.
2. How many hours do you work in a typical week?
3. Tell me about your background, including education and experience (college degree or special training).
4. What kind of people do you work with? Who is your supervisor? Who are your colleagues?
5. Why did you choose this particular field? Would you choose it again? Why?
6. What do you enjoy most about your job?
7. What skills – such as communication and problem solving – are most important in your field? Describe a situation in which you use these skills.
8. What is the average salary for this career? Can someone live comfortably on this salary? Is there a market for this position (job demand)?
9. If I were interested in pursuing your career, what classes and activities should I engage in to better prepare?
10. What other professionals or careers does your job interact with?
11. Are there opportunities to advance in this field?
12. Where do you see your profession 5 years and 10 years from now? Will technological advances make this type of position obsolete?