Career & College Readiness Lesson Plans
What’s A Hot Job?

Career Exploration

Grade Level 10

Overview

Students will learn about key factors related to career decision making. They will analyze labor market information to understand the role these factors play in choosing occupational goals.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Describe the difference between occupations that are growing in size versus occupations that have a large number of job openings.
- Describe how key factors can be included in the decision-making process when establishing occupational goals.

Language Objectives

At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Identify and apply the academic vocabulary in this unit within written responses.
- Effectively participate in class discussions and collaborations with 75 percent participation rate.

Standards Alignment

- California Common Core State Standards College & Career Readiness Anchor Standards:
  - RL. 2, 4; W. 1, 2, 4, 6; SL. 1, 2, 4, 6; L. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- California Career Technical Education Anchor Standards:
  - 2, 5
- California Standards for Career Ready Practice:
  - 1, 2, 5
- National Career Development Guidelines:
  - PS 2; CM 5
• International Society for Technology in Education Standards:
  o 2, 4
• English Language Development Standards:
  o Part 1: 1, 4, 5, 6, 10
  o Part 2: 1, 3, 4, 6
• American School Counselor Association Mindsets & Behaviors:
  o M 5

Materials

1. Computer with Internet access for students
2. Computer with Internet access and projection capability for instructor
3. Projector and screen
4. Student Handout
   • Hot Jobs (pp. 5–6)
5. Online Resource
   • What’s a Hot Job? Start-Up Video
     https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBcSB3y8mWY
   • CareerOneStop: What’s Hot

Academic Vocabulary

• Fastest growing occupations: are occupations that are growing the fastest base on the number of new jobs being created and job openings from turnover. An occupation can be growing fast but still employ a small number of people.

• Job: is a paid position with specific duties, tasks, and responsibilities in a particular place of work (e.g., photographer at Best Pictures).

• Occupation: is a cluster of jobs with common characteristics that require similar skills (e.g., photographer).

• Occupations with the most total job openings: are occupations with the highest total number of job openings in the next few years. Openings are from people leaving due to retirement or quitting and new jobs that are created.

• Salary: is the compensation paid for labor or services. Most salaries are paid for a fixed periods of working hours.
Activity
Students will research occupations that are growing or have many openings to determine the role this information plays in career decision making.

Getting Ready
- Preview the “What’s A Hot Job?” start-up video
- Review the online resources listed in the Materials section
- Become familiar with the CareerOneStop Web site

Lesson Procedures
1. Introduce the lesson by showing the “What's A Hot Job?” start-up video (link in Materials section) and confirm students understand what to expect. Or you can introduce the lesson without the video by describing the topic and activity.

2. Inform students they will be learning some key concepts related to career planning. Review the terms “fastest growing occupations” and “occupations with the most total job openings.”

3. Show students the “What's Hot” Web page (link in Materials section). Explain they will be going to three Web pages and will need to find specific information on each page to complete the handout. Explain the steps they must take to complete this lesson. Model either activity.

4. Activity, Part 1:
   1) From the “What’s Hot” Web page, select “Fastest growing occupations”.
   2) Choose “some college” as education level at a minimum.
   3) Choose three occupations from the results page and record the required information on the “Hot Jobs” handout.
   4) Return to the “What’s Hot” Web page.

Activity, Part 2:
1) From the “What’s Hot” Web page, select “Occupations with the most total job openings”.
2) Choose “some college” as education level at a minimum.
3) Choose three occupations from the results page and record the required information on the “Hot Jobs” handout.
5. Distribute the “Hot Jobs” handout and have students go online to the “What’s Hot” Web page (link in Materials section) to complete the handout.

6. When students have completed the handout, lead a class discussion based on the questions answered on their handouts. For question number five, be prepared to provide some examples of other factors that are important when setting an occupational goal. For example, personal values, interests, skills, abilities, required education, etc.

7. Wrap Up. Explain to students that now that they now know something many adult job seekers don’t know, the difference between fastest growing occupations and occupations with the most job openings, this knowledge will be helpful when they are competing for jobs in the future.

8. Remind students to put their worksheet in their career portfolios.

**Estimated Time**

One class session

**Additional Resources**

- Labor Market Information
  https://www.calcareercenter.org/Home/Content?contentID=339

- California CareerZone
  http://www.cacareerzone.org

- Living Wage Calculator
  http://livingwage.mit.edu/

**Evaluation**

- Completed worksheet with written responses using academic vocabulary, and Standard English conventions.

- Participation in class discussions.

**Adaptations**

- Have students track which jobs have been “hot jobs” over the last ten to twenty years. Ask students to analyze the changes in “hot jobs” in relation to the labor market, political, or social conditions.

This lesson and all other lessons and materials are posted on the California Career Resource Network Web site at www.californiacareers.info.
Hot Jobs

Name: ________________________________

Period: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________


1. Write down the three fastest growing occupations you chose and explain your choices. What do they each earn?

2. Write down the three occupations with the most total job openings you chose and explain your choices. What do they each earn?

3. Is it better to find an occupation that is growing the fastest or has the highest number of openings? Explain. Is there another factor that you believe is more important than job growth?
4. Some jobs with the highest number of openings are entry-level jobs and do not pay very well. Do the earnings for the occupations you reviewed look like they would support the type of lifestyle you would like to live? Please explain.

5. Reflection: How could this information help you choose an occupational goal? Are there other factors that are more important or equally important to consider when setting an occupational goal?