

Career Exploration Lesson Plan

Title: Career Exploration		Grade Range: 6-8
Integrated Curriculum Area: Language Arts	Concepts and Competencies: Research, Oral Communications	Tool: Presentation Software
Summary: Students choose a possible career and create a presentation that explores the characteristics of that career.		

Warm-up

- Make sure students have completed the EasyTech lesson **Presentation Software: Lines, Lists, and Structure** and its prerequisites.
- Teacher reviews the concepts of presenting information and public speaking with the class.

Activity

Students create a presentation that presents information about a particular career:

- Teacher reviews the skills taught in the assigned EasyTech lessons and the functionality of the specific presentation application students will be using.
- Student chooses a possible career.
- Student researches the career using the library or Internet.
- Student completes data table on paper with information about the career.
- Student creates a short presentation (four to six slides) exploring characteristics of the career.
- Student includes his or her qualifications for the career on the final slide.

Wrap-up

- Students share their presentations with the class.
- Students discuss the career ideas and the way their classmates presented them.

Extension

- Students write speeches that help them give their presentations to the class.
- Students interview individuals whose career paths are similar to the students' possible career paths. Then students create an expanded presentation based on the interview.

Name _____

Career Exploration Student Activity Page

1. Think of a career you would like to explore. Research the career using library resources such as books, magazines, or the Internet.
2. Record your career, notes, and sources in the data table below the model.

Here is a model of a career data table:

Career: Graphic Designer

Job Responsibilities:	Graphic designers designs visual displays, use computer design software, work with marketing, work with advertising, works with publications, and use print and electronic media.
Skills Needed:	Graphic designers need artistic ability, sense of design, ability to work well with deadlines, communication skills, and team-player attitude.
Education and Experience:	Graphic designers usually need college degrees in art or design, specialized training, experience with design, and also experience with marketing, advertising, and publications.
Professional Outlook:	Graphic design jobs are in high demand especially with the Internet. Freelance and corporate jobs are popular, and salaries and competition are increasing.
Why I Like this Career:	I'm creative and original, I love drawing and painting, I work well in groups, I have experience on the yearbook staff, and the career outlook is positive.

Source: *The Career Resource Guide for Middle-Schoolers*, Cannes Publishing, 1998.

Career: _____

Job Responsibilities:	
Skills Needed:	
Education and Experience:	
Professional Outlook:	
Why I Like this Career:	

Source(s): _____

continued

3. Now you are ready to create a presentation based on your data table. Your presentation should contain the following:
 - Four to six slides
 - A clear introduction, middle, and end
 - Bulleted or numbered lists
 - Lines or arrows used as dividers
 - Filled rectangles
 - A consistent color palette and background
4. Make sure your final slide explains why you believe you are qualified for this career.
5. Save and print your presentation.

Career Exploration Model

Career Exploration



All About Graphic Design

What Does a Graphic Designer Do?

- Designs art and layouts for visual display
- Uses various computer design programs
- Works with marketing, advertising, or publications
- Uses print, electronic, and film media

Skills Needed

- Artistic ability
- Good sense of visual design
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Good communication skills and a “team player” attitude

Education and Experience

- College degree in Art or Design
- Specialized training
- Experience working with computer design programs
- Experience with marketing, advertising, or publications

Professional Outlook

- High demand, especially in web design
- Freelance and corporate designers are in demand
- Competition and salaries are increasing for the best talent

Why Do I Like Graphic Design?

- I have creative, original ideas
- I love to draw and paint
- I work well with groups of people
- I worked on the school year book staff
- The career outlook seems positive

Name: _____

Career Exploration Rubric

Student Evaluation

Activity Page:

- _____ Chosen career is written in the provided space
- _____ Table is completed with research gained from library resources or the Internet
- _____ Research source is listed below the table

Presentation:

- _____ Has a clear introduction, middle, and end
- _____ Four to six slides are included
- _____ Contains bulleted or numbered lists
- _____ Contains lines or arrows used as dividers
- _____ Contains filled rectangles
- _____ Uses a consistent color palette and background
- _____ Explains details about the career
- _____ Presentation is saved and printed
- _____ Presentation is delivered orally

Teacher Evaluation

Activity Page:

- _____ Chosen career is written in the provided space
- _____ Table is completed with research gained from library resources or the Internet
- _____ Research source is listed below the table

Presentation:

- _____ Has a clear introduction, middle, and end
- _____ Four to six slides are included
- _____ Contains bulleted or numbered lists
- _____ Contains lines or arrows used as dividers
- _____ Contains filled rectangles
- _____ Uses a consistent color palette and background
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- _____ Presentation is saved and printed
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