CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 12-13 ▲ EXPLORING HIGH GROWTH OCCUPATIONS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will identify high growth occupations in Washington state.
* Students will research a selected high growth occupation.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* High Growth Occupations
* **Computer with internet access** for student groups to research high growth occupation

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Introduce the idea of an occupational outlook.** Ask students if they would rather find a job in an occupation area that is growing or in one that is shrinking. Why? Then explain that you will spend your lesson today exploring high growth occupations in Washington State. Ask students to brainstorm what they think those occupations might be and note their answers on the board. Ask students if they are interested in any of the occupations you brainstormed. Why or why not?
2. **Research high growth occupations.** Distribute the *High Growth Occupations* Handout and quickly review the occupations on the first page with students. Explain that this list represents some of the fastest growing occupations in Washington State. All of these occupations require some level of postsecondary education or training. Discuss how the list on the handout compares to the list of occupations your students brainstormed. What are the differences? Why do students think the occupations on the handout are growing? Then divide students into small groups and assign each group to research one of the listed occupations. Have students use Career One Stop ([www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)) to complete the handout based on their assigned occupation.
3. **Present high growth occupations.** Time permitting; ask each group to make a 1- to 2-minute presentation about the occupation they researched. Have students take notes.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *High Growth Occupations* Handout**

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* Your school might wish to hold a Career Day for students, where they could hear from community members in a range of different occupations. In addition, the following web sites will help students and their families learn more about career opportunities and postsecondary education requirements.
* **Career One Stop:** [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)  
  U.S. Department of Labor resource with searchable database on occupations
* **Workforce Explorer:** [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)   
  Washington State Employment Security Department web site on occupations
* **Washington Career Bridge:** [www.careerbridge.wa.gov](http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov)   
  Washington-specific information about occupations, with links to postsecondary institutions
* **Workforce Explorer’s Jobs for the Sidewalk Economist:** [www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/3044\_JobsBW\_12\_06\_All.pdf](http://www.workforceexplorer.com/admin/uploadedPublications/3044_JobsBW_12_06_All.pdf)
* **Bureau of Labor Statistics’ What Do You Like?:** [www.bls.gov/k12](http://www.bls.gov/k12)
* **Where Are You Going Guide:**   
  [wtb.wa.gov/CareerGuide.asp](http://wtb.wa.gov/CareerGuide.asp)

**ALIGNMENT WITH STANDARDS (OPTIONAL)**

* **Essential Academic Learning Requirements Grades 9/10 Grade Level Expectations:** This lesson is aligned with Writing 1.5.1 and Educational Technology 1.3.2 and 1.3.3. Students will develop materials in a career-appropriate format. They will locate, analyze, and use information from a national career database.
* **Common Core State Standards Grades 11-12:** This lesson is aligned with English Language Arts Speaking and Listening 1d and 4 and Writing 4. Students will participate in a group project about high growth occupations, integrating multiple sources of information to do so. They will also complete a research and writing exercise.
* **American School Counselor Association National Standards:** This lesson is aligned with ASCA Career A2.3, B1.8, and B2.1. Students will demonstrate knowledge about the changing workplace. They will understand how changing economic and societal needs influence employment trends and their need for future training.

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LESSON 12-13 STUDENT HANDOUT

HIGH GROWTH OCCUPATIONS

**Name**

**HIGH GROWTH OCCUPTIONS IN WASHINGTON STATE**

According to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Career One Stop ([www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)), the following occupations are expected to be among the fastest growing in Washington State. Some of the jobs listed below are “green jobs” that will use or explore alternative technologies to improve the environment, or that are existing jobs that will be reconfigured to use new, greener technologies.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Occupations requiring postsecondary training or an Associate’s degree** | **Occupations requiring  a Bachelor’s degree or more** |
| Automotive engineering technicians  Biofuels processing technicians  Computer support specialists  Court reporters  Dental hygienists  Emergency medical technicians  Gaming dealers  Nuclear technicians  Occupational health and safety technicians  Occupational therapist assistants  Paralegals and legal assistants  Radiation therapists  Registered nurses  Respiratory therapists  Veterinary technologists and technicians | Aerospace engineers  Atmospheric and space scientists  Audiologists  Automotive engineers  Biochemists and biophysicists  Biofuels product development managers  Biomedical engineers  Civil engineers  Computer and information scientists, research  Computer systems analysts  Employment and placement specialists  Market research analysts  Orthodontists  Physician Assistants  Veterinarians |

***Which of these occupations sounds most interesting to you? Why?***

**LEARN MORE ABOUT AN OCCUPATION**

Select one of the occupations listed on the first page. Then complete the rest of this handout by using information about that occupation at Career One Stop:

* Go to [www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org).
* Click on “Explore Careers.”
* Then click on “Browse Occupations.”
* Type your assigned career into the search box and click “search.”
* If requested, specify the exact title of your assigned occupation or a more detailed title from the list and click “continue.”
* Find Washington in the state listing and click “continue.”
* Use the occupation profile that appears to answer the questions.

Occupation:

Occupation Description:

Number of job openings expected for Washington State by 2018 and percentage increase:

Required education and training:

Median wage in Washington State:

Sample tasks and duties: