CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 7-17 ▲ OCCUPATIONS SCAVENGER HUNT

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will explore the educational requirements and outlook for different careers.
* Students will explore the connection between educational preparation and wages.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Occupational Outlook Scavenger Hunt Worksheet
* **Resources**
* Digital access for each student (or pairs) to the Bureau of Labor Statistics website

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Introduce the idea of an occupational outlook.** Ask students if they would rather find a job in an occupation that is growing or in an occupation that is shrinking. Why? Then explain that you will spend your lesson today exploring occupations in general, including statistics that help point toward high-growth occupations. Start a list that you can check later.
2. **Review the format of the Bureau of Labor Statistics Website.** Explain that this website summarizes information about jobs throughout the United States, including projected growth, salaries and more. Review each section of the BLS site and tell them they can “create their own scavenger hunt” by exploring the BLS website:
   * Games and Quizzes – for example, crosswords, word search, quizzes and more.
   * Student Resources - for example career exploration, charts and tables, economy at a glance, maps and more
3. **Complete the Occupational Outlook Scavenger Hunt.** Distribute the *Occupational Outlook Scavenger Hunt Worksheet* and ask students to work individually or in small groups to complete it. Have them choose 2-3 areas of interest on the BLS website. Focus in particular on the differences in educational preparation and what that means in terms of salary*.*
4. Discussion. Ask them what they learned. For example, why jobs that require more educational preparation pay higher salaries. What do they think?

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Occupational Scavenger Hunt Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **Washington State Occupation Explorer**

<https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/employmentdata/reports-publications/occupational-reports/occupations-in-demand>

A database operated by the Washington State Employment Security Department, that features information for in demand and not-in demand careers

* **Department of Labor America’s Career InfoNet**

[www.careerinfonet.org](http://www.careerinfonet.org)

This database provides national projections for careers

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LESSON 7-17 STUDENT HANDOUT

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS SCAVENGER HUNT

*Complete the chart below using the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics “Student Resources” Site:* [*www.bls.gov/k12/*](http://www.bls.gov/k12/)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **What I did on BLS Site** | **Something I learned** |
| **Exploration 1** |  |  |
| **Exploration 2** |  |  |
| **Exploration 3** |  |  |

*Find a job that sounds interesting. Write its name, level of preparation, average annual earnings, and why you think it sounds interesting:*