CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 9-14 ▲ CAREER CLUSTERS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Identify the 16 career clusters.
* Match career titles to the appropriate career cluster.
* Rank the 16 clusters in order of personal preference.
* Outline a structure for researching a career interest from their top ranked cluster.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Career Titles List
* Career Cluster List
* Career Clusters and Sample Careers
* 9th Grade Career Research Worksheet
* **Sheet of paper** for writing

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Students assume a career “identity.”** Distribute the *Career Titles List*. Assign each student a career title (selecting those you think your students have heard of before) and have them write their career title in big letters on a sheet of paper. Tell students that this is their career “identity” for the next exercise.
2. **Students build career clusters with common themes.**  Tell students that there are more than 10,000 different types of careers. To make it easier to think about careers, they are often put into “clusters” or groups. Ask students to stand up and, using the career “identity” you gave them, find other students whose career identities have something in common with theirs and form a group with those students. For example, the accountant might start calling out, “careers that work with numbers,” and several students who career “identity” works with numbers would cluster around that person. At the same time, other students may be clustering into groups of “outdoor careers,” “science-related careers,” or “careers requiring apprenticeship training.” Once all students are in groups, have groups call out their cluster name. Ask student to re-cluster around new themes twice more.
3. **Students reassemble around the 16 career clusters.** With students still standing, tell them that there are 16 commonly used career clusters for organizing career titles.Distribute the *Career Cluster List*. Ask them to look through the list and identify the cluster their career “identity” would belong to. Ask students to regroup themselves according to these 16 clusters. Note which clusters are not represented by any students, and ask the whole group to identify two or three careers that might be part of those clusters.
4. **Students match career titles to the appropriate career cluster.** Ask students to return to their seats and find a partner. Assign each pair a career cluster and ask them to look through the *Career Titles List* and circle every career they think is part of their assigned career cluster. After several minutes, distribute the *Career Clusters and Sample Careers*. Ask the pairs to compare the sample careers listed for each career cluster with the careers they identified for their assigned career cluster.
5. **Students rank the 16 clusters in order of personal preference.** Have students return to their seats and work individually to rank the 16 career clusters on the *Career Cluster List*. Tell them to organize the clusters into three categories: Level One (I am interested in some careers in these clusters); Level Two (I might be interested in some careers in these clusters); and Level Three (I am not interested in the careers in these clusters). Within Level One, have students circle their top three career clusters. When students have finished, ask each student to volunteer their top choice career cluster. Encourage students to notice the popular and less popular clusters.
6. **Students outline a structure for researching a career interest** **from their top ranked cluster**.Distribute the *9th Grade Career Research Worksheet.* Have students fill out the top section of the worksheet, defining a career interest, its career cluster, and why it interests them. Encourage them to complete the rest of the research sheet by going to your school’s Career Center.
7. **Students create a personal career cluster based on one of their interests.** Ask students to select an interest area (music, writing, science, technology, sports, etc). Tell students you would like them to create their own personal career cluster by using the Career Titles handout to identify any career related to their chosen interest. Once they are done, have them pair up with another student to show their personal career clusters. Repeat this sharing of personal career clusters twice more. Encourage students to create more personal career clusters around other interests.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *9th Grade Career Research Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **Career Bridge Washington**

<http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov>

Described as “Washington’s one stop source for career and education planning,” this free website has an abundance of career information that is customized for Washington.

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 9-14 STUDENT HANDOUT

CAREER TITLES LIST

Accountant Computer Animator Foreign Service Policy Advisor

Actor Consumer Advocate Officer Port Manager

Administrative Controller Freight, Stock, and Principal

Assistant Copywriter Material Mover Production Manager

Aerospace Engineer Corrections Officer Game Developer Programmer

Airplane Pilot Counselor Geologist Public Relations

Air Traffic Controller Cryptographer Hazardous Materials Manager

Ambassador Curator Responder Recycling Technician

Animator Customs Inspector Home Health Aide Registered Nurse

Aquaculturalist Database Industrial Machinery Restaurant Owner

Architect Administrator Mechanic Roofer

Armed Services Data Systems Intelligence Analyst Safety Analyst

Member Designer Interactive Media Sales Executive

Assembler Debt Counselor Specialist School Administrator

Athletic Trainer Demolition Engineer Interior Designer Security Director

Attorney Dental Hygienist International Logistics Security Specialist

Auditor Design Engineer Specialist Sheet and Metal

Baker Director Inventory Manager Worker

Bartender Drywall Installer Journalist Social Worker

Biochemist Ecologist Lab Technician Sports Promoter

Biomedical Engineer E-Commerce Director Loan Officer Statistician

Boilermaker Economist Locomotive Engineer Tax Examiner

Bomb Technician Elected Official Manufacturing Teacher

Botanist Electrician Technician Telecommunication

Broadcast Technician Emergency Relief Marketing Analyst Tech

Career Tech Worker Mathematician Telemarketer

Administrator EMPT/Paramedic Media Specialist Tool and Diemaker

Cargo and Freight Entrepreneur Merchandise Buyer Tour and Travel Guide

Agent Environmental Metallurgist Underwriter

Carpenter Compliance Manager Museum Director Urban and Regional

Casino Manager Environmental Musician Planner

Caterer Engineer Network Veterinarian

Chemist Event Planner Administrator Warehouse Manager

Child Care Worker Facility Engineer Nutritionist Web Designer

City Manager Farmer/Rancher Office Manager Webmaster

Civil Engineer Fashion Designer Painter Welder

Clinical Psychologist Field Marketing Rep Pattern and Model Wholesale and Retail

Coach Financial Director Maker Buyer

Community Organizer Financial Planner Physician Wildlife Manager

Community Service Firefighter Plumber Wine Steward

Director Fish & Game Officer Police Officer Zoologist

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 9-14 STUDENT HANDOUT

CAREER CLUSTERS LIST

This is a list of the 16 “career clusters.” What types of careers do you think are part of each cluster?

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Architecture and Construction

Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications

Business, Management, and Administration

Education and Training

Finance

Government and Public Administration

Health Science

Hospitality & Tourism

Human Services

Information Technology

Law, Public Safety Corrections, and Security

Manufacturing

Marketing

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 9-14 STUDENT HANDOUT

CAREER CLUSTERS AND SAMPLE CAREERS

What do you want to do? One way to answer that question is to select a **Career Cluster**. Career clusters are groups of jobs that are based on similar interests, skills, and abilities. (From States’ Career Clusters Initiative)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CAREER**  **CLUSTER** | **CLUSTER**  **DESCRIPTION** | **FOCUS AREAS** | **SAMPLE JOBS** |
| **Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources** | The production, processing, marketing, distribution, financing, and development of agricultural commodities and resources, including food, fiber, wood products, natural resources, horticulture, and other plant and animal products and resources. | * Food Products and Processing Systems * Plant Systems * Animal Systems * Power, Structural & Technical Systems * Natural Resource Systems * Environmental Science Systems * Agribusiness Systems | * Aquaculturalist * Botanist * Ecologist * Environmental Compliance-Assurance Manager * Farmer/Rancher * Fish & Game Officer * Recycling Technician * Veterinarian * Wildlife Manager |
| **Architecture and Construction** | Careers in designing, planning, managing, building, and maintaining the built environment. | * Design/Pre-Construction * Construction * Maintenance/Operations | * Architect * Carpenter * Civil Engineer * Demolition Engineer * Drywall Installer * Electrician * Interior Designer * Painter * Plumber * Roofer * Sheet and Metal Worker |
| **Arts, A/V Technology and Communications** | Designing, producing, exhibiting, performing, writing, and publishing multimedia content including visual and performing arts and design, journalism, and entertainment services. | * Audio and Video Technology and Film * Journalism and Broadcasting * Performing Arts * Printing Technology * Telecommunications * Visual Arts | * Actor * Broadcast Technician * Computer Animator * Curator * Director * Fashion Designer * Journalist * Musician * Telecommunication Tech * Web Page Designer |

CAREER CLUSTERS AND SAMPLE CAREERS (cont.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CAREER**  **CLUSTER** | **CLUSTER**  **DESCRIPTION** | **FOCUS AREAS** | **SAMPLE JOBS** |
| **Business, Management and Administration** | Planning, organizing, directing, and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. | * General Management * Business Information Management * Human Resources Management * Operations Management * Administrative Support | * Administrative Assistant * Auditor * Entrepreneur * Finance Director * Marketing Analyst * Office Manager * Public Relations Manager * Wholesale and Retail Buyer |
| **Education and Training** | Planning, managing, and providing education and training services and related learning support services. | * Teaching and Training * Professional Support Services * Administration and Administrative Support | * Administrator * Career Tech Administrator * Child Care Worker * Clinical Psychologist * Coach * Counselor * Principal * Teacher |
| **Finance** | Services for financial and investment planning, banking, insurance, and business financial management. | * Securities and Investments * Business and Finance * Banking Services * Insurance * Accounting | * Accountant * Bill and Account Collector * Controller * Debt Counselor * Economist * Financial Planner * Loan Officer * Tax Examiner * Underwriter |
| **Government and Public Administration** | Executing governmental functions, including governance, national security, foreign service, planning, revenue and taxation, regulation, and management and administration at the local, state, and federal levels. | * Governance * National Security * Foreign Service * Planning * Revenue and Taxation * Regulation * Public Management and Administration | * Ambassador * Armed Services member * City Manager * Cryptographer * Elected Official * Foreign Service Officer * Intelligence Analyst * Policy Advisor |
| **Law, Public Safety Corrections and Security** | Planning, managing, and providing legal, public safety, protective services, and homeland security, including professional and technical support services. | * Corrections Services * Emergency and Fire Management Services * Security and Protective Services * Law Enforcement Services * Legal Services | * Attorney * Bomb Technician * Corrections Officer * Firefighter * Hazardous Materials Responder * Police Officer * Security Director |

CAREER CLUSTERS AND SAMPLE CAREERS (cont.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CAREER**  **CLUSTER** | **CLUSTER**  **DESCRIPTION** | **FOCUS AREAS** | **SAMPLE JOBS** |
| **Manufacturing** | **The processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities, such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering.** | * **Production** * **Manufacturing Production Process Development** * **Maintenance, Installation and Repair** * **Quality Assurance** * **Logistics and Inventory Control** * **Health, Safety, and Environmental Assurance** | * **Assembler** * **Boilermaker** * **Design Engineer** * **Environmental Engineer** * **Freight, Stock, and Material Mover** * **Industrial Machinery Mechanic** * **Manufacturing Technician** * **Pattern and Model Maker** * **Production Manager** * **Tool and Diemaker** * **Welder** |
| **Marketing** | **Researching and identifying customer needs and preferences, planning and implementing customer outreach, preparing materials to support sales activities.** | * **Marketing Management** * **Professional Sales** * **Merchandising** * **Marketing Communication** * **Marketing Research** | * **Copywriter** * **E-Commerce Director** * **Field Marketing Rep** * **Interactive Media Specialist** * **Inventory Manager** * **Merchandise Buyer** * **Public Relations Manager** * **Sales Executive** * **Telemarketer** * **Webmaster** |
| **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics** | **Scientific research and professional and technical services in the physical sciences, social sciences, and engineering, including laboratory and testing services, and research and development services.** | * **Science and Mathematics** * **Engineering and Technology** | * **Aerospace Engineer** * **Biomedical Engineer** * **Chemist** * **Geologist** * **Mathematician** * **Metallurgist** * **Statistician** * **Zoologist** |

CAREER CLUSTERS AND SAMPLE CAREERS (cont.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CAREER**  **CLUSTER** | **CLUSTER**  **DESCRIPTION** | **FOCUS AREAS** | **SAMPLE JOBS** |
| **Transportation, Distribution and Logistics** | **Planning, management, and movement of people, materials, and goods by road, pipeline, air, rail, and water; and related professional and technical support services, such as transportation infrastructure planning and management, logistics services, mobile equipment, and facility maintenance.** | * **Transportation Operations** * **Logistics Planning and Management Services** * **Warehousing and Distribution Center Operations** * **Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance** * **Transportation System/ Infrastructure Planning, Management, and Regulation** * **Health, Safety, and Environmental Management** * **Sales and Service** | * **Airplane Pilot** * **Air Traffic Controller** * **Cargo and Freight Agent** * **Customs Inspector** * **Facility Engineer** * **International Logistics Specialist** * **Locomotive Engineer** * **Port Manager** * **Safety Analyst** * **Urban and Regional Planner** * **Warehouse Manager** |

For more information about the 16 Career Clusters or to find detailed booklets or plans of study for the cluster that is most interesting to you: [www.careerclusters.org](http://www.careerclusters.org)

CAREER AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

LESSON 9-14 STUDENT HANDOUT

9th GRADE CAREER RESEARCH WORKSHEET

**Name:**

**What do you want to do? Complete this worksheet to learn more about a career possibility.**

A career that interests me is:

The career cluster for this career is:

I am interested in this career because:

**Visit your school’s Career Center or available websites to learn more about this career.**

The main responsibilities of someone who works in this career:

The post-secondary education required for this career:

The high school courses I would need to prepare:

9th GRADE CAREER RESEARCH WORKSHEET (cont.)

The average starting salary for someone in this career:

The job prospects over time for this career:

How does this research align with my High School & Beyond Plan’s Personalized Pathway? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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