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|  | **First Steps: Understanding the World of Work through Career Technical Education** is a standard-based, CTE focused, career development curriculum for students in grades 7-8. The First Steps logo indicates instructional resources are aligned to the [First Steps Standards](https://cte.idaho.gov/Resource_Catalog/Program_Areas/Middle_School/TheIdahoMiddleSchoolCTEInitiative.pdf) and IDCTE approved! |

**First Steps Standard(s):** Domain 2: Career Exploration (What’s out there for me?) 1. Apply self-evaluation to the world of work (Where do I fit in the world of work?) E. Choose a cluster or occupation. Research the education or training required including program of study, labor market information, and wage compared to Idaho’s living wage.

**Career Activity Curriculum Topic:** Going on A Job Hunt!

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will be able to (SWBAT):

1. Utilize self-evaluation results to choose a career or career pathway to study

2. Analyze and present information about the chosen career by creating a brochure

**Activity Summary:** In this lesson students will choose a career pathway to research, using the results of the self-evaluation/personality tests/etc. done in previous lessons. They will use several sources of information to find answers to critical questions they may have about that career choice. Once research is completed, they will organize it in an informational brochure.

**Estimated Time:** Work time over several class periods (up to one week)

**Learning Plan Activity:** 7th or 8th Grade

**Learning Outcomes:** Students will be able to (SWBAT):

1. Utilize self-evaluation results to choose a career or career pathway to study

2. Analyze and present information about the chosen career by creating a brochure

**Materials Needed:**

* Teacher Materials: Computer/projector, slide deck, handout (Assignment Sheet (1 per student))
* Student Materials: Pen/pencil, assignment sheet, access to a device (with web), materials for brochure making (if there is an option to complete by hand rather than virtual), access to prior materials

**Introduction:** Asking critical questions and doing sufficient research about career options is one way to help you choose a job that you will enjoy and feel successful at. In this lesson, you will choose a suggested career path for you, ask some important questions, and do research to find more information. At the end of the lesson, you will have a better understanding of whether this job is a good fit for you.

**Learning Activities/Procedures:** Use the slide deck.

**\*\*NOTE:** The prior lesson is prerequisite to this one and should be completed first.

1. Start with having students complete the “Do Now” activity on the top of their assignment sheet. Help them start to build connections and reflect on the self-evaluation activity and personality tests that they have already completed.
2. Discuss with a partner or as a class, answer any outstanding questions on the importance of career research.
3. Allow students to share some of the questions that they would find most important to ask when they have selected a career (sample questions are provided in the “Notes” for this slide).

\*\*This slide was originally created to work with Pear Deck. You could ask the question via Pear Deck and give students the opportunity to submit one (or multiple questions) virtually.

\*\*Optional: You could make a chart on the whiteboard, or place several posters around the room, and have students walk around and add their questions for each of the different categories to a larger space for others to see.

1. Have students refer back to their self-evaluation and personality test results for recommended careers. They will choose one they are interested in (pursuing and researching).
2. Students will then research careers and fill out the handout, using information on sites like:
   1. Next Steps Idaho [Next Steps Idaho](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/browse-careers)
   2. US Bureau of Labor Statistics [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/)
   3. Career One Stop [Career One Stop](https://www.careeronestop.org/ExploreCareers/Learn/career-clusters.aspx)
3. Once research has been completed, direct students to create a brochure with the information from the research page.

\*\*For more clarification: education information goes in the same section, job overview is on a section, Salary and places to work go together, Skills and aptitudes go together. An example of a brochure has been attached.

1. In order to allow for quality research and work time, the work periods for the brochure may last several class periods.
2. When completed, students will share their research and possible career choice, by presenting the brochures in class or hanging them on a bulletin board/doing a gallery walk/etc.

**Accommodations/Adaptations/Extensions:**

**Accommodation:** Offer shorter or fewer questions in the research process; allow for work with a positive peer or partner while completing research; students may complete a simpler version of the brochure for final eval (or a poster/slideshow/etc.).

**Adaptation:** Virtual: Students can ask questions using the Pear Deck format or a Google Form; Final eval can be completed online and presented via Zoom or Teams and/or emailed to teacher or posted in a discussion forum.

**Extension:** Challenge students to make the brochure from the perspective of an employer that is hiring for that specific job. They should use that lens to make the information ideal for a potential candidate or job-seeker; Challenge students to complete the same activity for a job they are NOT interested in. Allow them to see some possible good qualities in a field that is outside of their comfort zone.

**Evaluation:** Students will submit both, the research page and the completed brochure at the end of the lesson (or week). They will present the information they found.

**Closing:** Completing thorough career-research can help individuals to either feel more excited to

pursue a particular career path or reveal to them that perhaps it is not the right choice, and steer them in a new

direction. There are many elements that go into choosing a job and recognizing that is the right fit:

including skills, salary, education, lifestyle, and many others. Taking these things into consideration can help

people to make more informed and fulfilling career choices.

**Resources/References:**

Next Steps Idaho [https://nextsteps.idaho.gov](https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/)

US Bureau of Labor Statistics <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

Career One Stop <https://www.careeronestop.org/ExploreCareers/Learn/career-clusters.aspx>