

Career Exploration

TEACHER GUIDE

Overview

The mission features lots of exciting roles in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that students may experience (virtually) first-hand. This activity helps students to view the mission from the perspective of their own strengths, interests, and future career goals.

Students investigate two careers from a list that highlights the careers pertinent to the mission activities. They choose one career that interests them as a potential future career choice. You assign a second career for their investigation. They present both careers to the class so the entire class can review each career in the list.

Materials

- Computers with Internet connection.
- Printed list of career descriptions (option if computers not available).
- Career exploration worksheet
- Mission career list

Instructions

1. Distribute the career list and have the students review each career on the list and choose one as a potential future career choice.
2. Assign a second career to each of the students for a second investigation.
3. Instruct the students to begin work by listing their job titles in each column on the career exploration worksheet.
4. If you have access to computers, you may have students visit one of several sites to research their job title:
 - **Bureau of Labor Statistics**
A-Z List of Job Titles
<http://www.bls.gov/k12/index.htm>

- **America's Career InfoNet**
Features videos showing the types of work people do (including videos in Spanish)
<http://www.acinet.org/acinet/videos.asp?id=27.&nodeid=27>

As a teacher, you will want to become familiar with these sites before you send students to them.

If you do not have access to computers, you may alternatively print out the list of career descriptions.

5. The worksheet should be completed with enough detail to provide students a clear understanding of the career. Remind them that they will need this information for a later activity, so they are to work carefully!
6. When they have finished with the information on the first matched career, they should start on the second career to complete the worksheet.
7. The students can now present their career information to the class. You may want to have them role-play a "career day" as they talk about their chosen career as a professional in that field.