

## **SOUTH CAROLINA CAREER GUIDANCE EFFECTIVE EXERCISES**

**TITLE:** RESEARCHING AN OCCUPATION

**SUBJECT:** Guidance Activity

**GRADE LEVEL(S):** 6-8

**SC Career Guidance Standard/Competency**

- Learning to Work: Standard 3. Students will explore careers and the connection of school to work.

Competency 3.4. Develop decision-making skills to select a career/education path and complete an individual graduation plan for grade eight

**National Career Development Guidelines Goal/Indicator**

- Career Management: GOAL CM3. Use accurate, current, and unbiased career information during career planning and management.

Indicator CM3.A2. Demonstrate the ability to use different types of career information resources (i.e., occupational, educational, economic, and employment) to support career planning.

Indicator CM3. K5. Identify occupations you might consider without regard to your gender, race, culture, or ability.

### **Lesson Objectives**

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to use a variety of career resources to research an occupation of choice.

### **Assessment**

1. Students will accurately complete the *Researching an Occupation* worksheet.

### **Preparation**

- Prior Learning—Skills to access the Internet and SCOIS (optional)
- Handouts/Worksheets— *Researching an Occupation* worksheet
- Resources—Computers with Internet access, career information books/videos, Optional: SCOIS, O\*Net ([www.onetcenter.org](http://www.onetcenter.org)), or other career information programs
- Time Required—45-90 minutes

### **Procedures**

#### **Part One**

- Make arrangements for the students to visit the computer lab and/or media center where they would have access to career resource materials.

#### **Part Two (45-90 minutes)**

- Engage students in a quick brainstorm of resources they could use to get career information.
- Point out to them that the Internet is an excellent resource for career information and indicate the programs available to them (e.g., SCOIS or other computer program).

- Hand out the *Researching an Occupation* worksheet and review it with the students.
- Have students research their occupation of choice and complete the worksheet.
- Engage the students in a discussion of what they learned. Were there any surprises? Was the occupation what they thought it was? How will what they learned affect their high school course selection?
- Encourage students to research additional occupations.
- Remind students that learning about occupations is an important step in preparing to create their Individual Graduation Plan.
- Optional: Use the *Researching an Occupation* worksheet as a career portfolio artifact.
- Optional: Follow-up this activity with career-related writing assignments, career resources speakers, and/or job shadowing.

## *Researching an Occupation*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Choose an occupation that interests you and write its name on the "Occupation" line. Use the Internet, SCOIS or other computer programs, videos, books, and magazines to research the occupation. Complete all of the sections below.

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

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YOU SHOULD LIKE: \_\_\_\_\_

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YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO: \_\_\_\_\_

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EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK: \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDED: \_\_\_\_\_

SUGGESTED SCHOOL SUBJECTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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RELATED OCCUPATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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RELATED COLLEGE MAJORS: \_\_\_\_\_