

Lesson Plan: Career Exploration – Forest Industry

Course: Career and Life Management 20

Total Time: 80 minutes

Assessment Type: Formative

Overview: Careers within a single industry can be more diverse than students might think. The forest industry, for example, appeals to people with varying interests and skills. In this lesson, students will identify qualities that they are looking for in a career. Then they will explore the variety of career opportunities available in the forest industry and determine which careers would best suit their own skillsets, interests, and values. Finally, they will create an action plan outlining the necessary steps to pursue a particular career.

Alberta Curricular Outcomes:

- C1: Examine components of effective career development as a lifelong process.
 - Relate present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.
- C4: Develop strategies to deal with the transition from senior high school to post-secondary education/training and/or the world of work.
 - Build one or more plans for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.
- C5: Develop a quality career portfolio.
 - Assess a wide range of career possibilities.
- C6: Investigate the range of learning opportunities in post-secondary programs, on-the-job training, and apprenticeship training programs.
 - Develop a network of information about a wide range of possibilities.
 - Assess the range of possibilities, their costs, and the available assistance and funding.

Materials:

- Part 1 Activity Sheet “My Career: Skills, Interests, and Values”
- Part 3 Activity Sheet “My Career: Action Plan” (activity sheets at end of lesson plan)
- Computers for all students

Lesson:

Part 1

Time: 15 minutes

Curricular Outcome: Relate present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.

Activity: Using the Part 1 Activity Sheet, have students reflect upon and determine their skillsets, interests, and values in relation to a future career.

Part 2

Time: 20 minutes

Curricular Outcome: Assess a wide range of career possibilities.

Activity: Have students log on to <http://workwild.ca/career-profiles> and take the 10 question Career Quiz. When they have completed the quiz, they will be shown three careers that may suit them based on their answers. Tell students to read through the details on each of their results and pick the one that appeals most to them. If none of these careers appeal to a student, he or she may browse through the 53 job profiles listed in the Career List above the quiz. There are six career categories (Engineering, Forestry, Office, Operator, Sciences, and Trades), each category listing several careers. At the end of Part 2, every student should have one career chosen that they feel might suit them.

Part 3

Time: 45 minutes

Curricular Outcomes:

- Develop a network of information about a wide range of possibilities.
- Assess the range of possibilities, their costs, and the available assistance and funding.
- Build one or more plans for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.

Activity: Using the Part 3 Activity Sheet, have students use the information on the career profile of their chosen career to create a career action plan. Students can also use these links and other online resources to create their career action plans:

<http://workwild.ca/scholarships>

<http://workwild.ca/jobpostings>

<http://occinfo.alis.alberta.ca/occinfopreview/info/browse-occupations.html>

Plans must include:

- Training/education required
- Potential training/education assistance (scholarships, bursaries, student loans, etc.)
- Experience required
- Key points to highlight on resume
- Timeline

Formative Assessment:

Review Part 1 Activity Sheet to see that student has:

- Related present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.

Review Part 2 Activity Sheet to see that student has:

- Chosen one career path after assessing a wide range of career possibilities.
- Gathered information about achieving a specific career goal.
- Assessed a particular career goal, its costs, and the available assistance and funding.
- Built an action plan for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.

Part 3 Activity Sheet

My Career: Action Plan

Realizing a career goal requires research and planning. From the careers you examined today, select one career path. Considering the following factors, create a 3-5 year action plan outlining the necessary steps to pursue that career.

- Training/education required
- Financial assistance for training/education (scholarships, bursaries, student loans, etc.)
- Required work and/or volunteer experience
- Key points to highlight on resume—consider your skills, interests, and values that make you a good candidate for this career.
- Timeline—how long will it take to get this kind of job?