

Lesson 8:

Exploring STEM Careers—Part 1

Discover the many different types of STEM careers and help students prepare for a STEM degree.

Student Learning Objective:

Develop positive attitudes toward STEM and formulate career development questions.

Materials You'll Need:

1. Reserved computer lab
2. Pre-filled out notecards

1. Define STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).
2. Depending on your class size, choose one STEM career for every student and write down a list of careers on the blackboard. Here are some examples:

Architect	Broadcast technician	Pediatrician
Airplane pilot	Meteorologist	Dentist
Industrial engineer	Zoologist	Surgeon
Anesthesiologist	Park ranger	Surveyor
Animal scientist	Computer programmer	Food scientist

3. Count out notecards for each career and write the definition of each career, along with their recommended degree program, on the back of every card. A simple Google search should help with finding these definitions.

Example:

I am trained and licensed to plan, design, and oversee the construction of buildings. To get here, I had to complete a bachelor's degree and work as an intern for two or three years. Then, I took a registration exam, or series of exams, before I obtained my license.

4. Hand out one card to each student and have them read the definition. Ask the class to call out the name of the career that the student just defined.
5. Have students login to CollegeWeekLive.com and chat with the different colleges available. Ask them to visit **at least three colleges** and talk about the degree programs they learned about during the activity. (Visiting three colleges automatically enters them in a monthly scholarship contest.)
6. After the chat sessions, ask students to share the experiences they had chatting with college reps. What did they learn from the conversations?

** Steps 5 and 6 can be done separately as a homework assignment or depending on computer lab availability*