



# Career Choice Research

## Extension Activity

Choosing a career is an important decision. You have many resources available for research. Learning to use these resources will allow you to repeat the career-planning process throughout your life. Interests typically dictate what work people enjoy. As interests change, people often are attracted to new occupations. Today's workers may work as many as seven different occupations during their lifetimes.

Based on your personal interests, abilities, and values, identify three careers that appeal to you and then perform the research to learn more about them.

- Assignment: Research three careers that seem compatible with your interests, abilities, and values. Access career information using the Bureau of Labor Statistics *Occupational Outlook Handbook* at [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh). Fill in the Career Critique Chart to summarize your findings.

### What you need to do:

1. Determine three career choices.
2. Log on to [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh) and begin your research by selecting from the list on the BLS home page an Occupation Group or Groups that match your career choices.
3. As you read information about each career on the BLS website, insert your findings in the spaces on the Career Critique Chart on Page 18.
4. Score each criteria box with a 5 for excellent, 3 for good, and 1 for not a good fit. Record the points in the columns labeled "Pts." Total the points.
5. Use the My Notes page at the front of your workbook to make additional notes.





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## Career Critique Chart Criteria

	Career 1	Pts	Career 2	Pts	Career 3	Pts
Matches my interests						
Matches my abilities						
Matches my values						
Salary or median pay						
Entry-level education						
Work experience						
On-the-job training						
Job outlook						
What workers do						
Work environment						
Advancement						
Other qualities needed						
	<b>Total Points:</b>		<b>Total Points:</b>		<b>Total Points:</b>	

# Paycheck Calculations

Using the information below, calculate each worker's net monthly income (NMI). GAI is gross annual income, and GMI is gross monthly income. (Note: Actual state and local tax rates will vary.)

Jamal works at the recreation center 15 hours a week during the school year. He earns \$8.75 an hour. In a typical month, he works 63 hours. Calculate his monthly taxes below.

Gross Monthly Income	\$ _____
Monthly Federal Income Tax (10%)	\$ _____
Monthly Social Security (FICA) (6.2%)	\$ _____
Monthly Medicare (1.45%)	\$ _____
Monthly State Tax (4%)	\$ _____
Monthly Local Tax (0.1%)	\$ _____
Total Monthly Deductions	\$ _____
Jamal's NMI =	\$ _____

A college student, Trey works part time for an annual salary of \$13,500 a year.

Gross Monthly Income	\$ _____
Monthly Federal Income Tax (11.6%)	\$ _____
Monthly Social Security (FICA) (6.2%)	\$ _____
Monthly Medicare (1.45%)	\$ _____
Monthly State Tax (4%)	\$ _____
Monthly Local Tax (0.1%)	\$ _____
Total Monthly Deductions	\$ _____
Trey's NMI =	\$ _____

Marie is a college professor. Her annual salary is \$66,000.

Gross Monthly Income	\$ _____
Monthly Federal Income Tax (18.7%)	\$ _____
Monthly Social Security (FICA) (6.2%)	\$ _____
Monthly Medicare (1.45%)	\$ _____
Monthly State Tax (4%)	\$ _____
Monthly Local Tax (0.1%)	\$ _____
Total Monthly Deductions	\$ _____
Marie's NMI =	\$ _____



# Career Explorations

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- Assignment: Research jobs that interest you using these online career exploration tools.

## Career Exploration Tools

What's your personality type? What are your interests and values? How about your strengths and weaknesses? Knowing the answers to such questions can help you decide on what's best for you to do in the world of work. Junior Achievement invites you to take advantage of the following free career exploration tools to guide you on your journey to what lies ahead.

If you're over 14 years old, check out the JA Career Profiler Assessment by Truity, a fun, informative way to separate what you like from what you dislike. The personal analysis takes about 20 minutes to help you find a career that best suits your interests, skills, and values. Enjoy discovering your passions and your purpose! Go to <http://japrofile.org>.

O\*NET Interest Explorer, an online tool developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment, and Training, is available to all users and takes about five minutes to complete. O\*NET career exploration provides useful information you can use to identify your strengths, the kind of work you like to do, and what you deem important. Use the assessment to identify the education and training needed for careers that interest you and their salaries, and find jobs that are in high demand. Go to <https://www.mynextmove.org/explore/ip>

## Common Courtesies: Using Your Manners in Public

- Be fully present. When you are with others, stop texting. Put your phone away and give them your full attention.
- Say thank you and say it often.
- Be on time
- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- Chew with your mouth closed
- Don't chew gum in public
- Open and hold the door for others
- Give up your seat on the bus, train or subway to the elderly
- Compliment others
- Say "good morning" or "goodnight"
- Say "excuse me" and make eye contact when you step on someone's toe or bump into them

And the list goes on: Add to it!

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**CONFIDENCE | CHARACTER | COURAGE**



## **HOW HAS PROSPER AFFECTED YOU?**

**Brainstorm!**

**How has this year's short experience changed your thinking, your attitude or anything about the way you view the world?**

**Try and be specific in nature**

**Be prepared to discuss...**

**If you haven't changed than you have not been AWAKE!**

