

Lesson 3: What's a STEM Career?

Objective:
Students will obtain information about STEM careers, including academic requirements and wages.
Overview:
Students will explore an NC State University website to find information about STEM careers.

Lesson preparation:	Activity
<p>Teacher and students will need access to the internet.</p> <p>Open Lesson 3: What's a STEM Career? Familiarize yourself with the lesson plan. Open the PowerPoint for Lesson 3. Print copies of the Lesson 3 pre-test and post-test.</p> <p>Go to http://aspirations.sparc37.com/ and click on the Pathways link at the bottom. Find the link in the table labeled "Overview of Employment and Wages." This is the link students will explore in this lesson.</p> <p>Look over the website page https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/overview_2018.htm</p>	<p>Distribute copies of the pre-test, ask students to complete, and collect pre-tests. The pre-test will let students know what they should learn from this lesson.</p> <p>Review the PowerPoint with students. You may need to revisit slides as you conduct the lesson activities.</p> <p>Go to http://aspirations.sparc37.com/ and click on the Pathways icon. Click on the link for "Overview of Employment and Wages". Scroll down to the "Stem" section on the page. We will be exploring all 3 links in this section.</p> <p>First, click on the link that says, "Metropolitan areas with the highest employment shares of STEM occupations, May 2018". This will show you a list of cities with the highest proportion of STEM occupations.</p> <p>Go back to the previous page. In the same section, click on the link that says, "Employment for the largest STEM occupations, May 2018" to view a list of the largest STEM occupations.</p> <p>Lastly, go back and click on the link that says, "Highest and lowest paying STEM occupations, May 2018" to see how much each career gets paid.</p> <p>Distribute copies of the post-test, ask students to complete, and collect post-tests. Compare pre- and post-test results.</p>

Suggestions for Differentiation:	Discussion:
<p>Google Chrome is the suggested browser if language translation is required. Simply right-click anywhere on the page and choose the "Translate" option. You may need to use the drop-down to select the preferred language.</p> <p>After they have answered the questions on the PowerPoint slide, students can research additional STEM careers or explore the website further, as time permits.</p> <p>Students who have trouble locating information on the STEM Careers website may find it easier to read a poster about STEM Careers.</p> <p>To find the poster and additional STEM career resources, go to http://aspirations.sparc37.com/ and click on the Pathways icon. Click on the link for "Overview of Employment and Wages." The STEM Careers poster can be found under the Student tab on the menu of that web page.</p> <p>(https://www.bls.gov/k12/content/students/careers/stem-table.htm)</p>	<p>After students have looked at STEM careers on their own, ask them if they found any interesting careers that they did not know of before this lesson. Ask if anyone found a STEM career that might interest them.</p> <p>Discuss with students why knowing what cities they might need to live in for a STEM career is important for planning their future.</p>