

Lesson Plan 1: Choose Your Favorite Career Cluster

Core www.cfnc.org Area:

High School Academic Planning

Total Time:

50 minutes.

Target Grades:

Appropriate for 8-11, Recommended for grade 8 or grade 9

Suggested Timeline:

Grade 8 or Grade 9: Winter Semester

ASCA Correlation

(Which of the ASCA Standards does this lesson address?)

A-A	A-B	A-C	C-A	C-B	C-C	PS-A	PS-B	PS-C
				X	X			

Lesson Objectives

(What will students know and be able to do when the lesson is complete?)

By the end of the lesson, students will have chosen their favorite Career Cluster and will have reviewed the high school course plan that supports this cluster

Materials Needed

(What materials are needed to deliver this lesson?)

Reserve computer lab or computer cart
Choose Your Career Cluster worksheet

Advance Preparation

(What does the instructor need to do in advance in order to be prepared to deliver this lesson?
How much time is required for advance prep?)

Print the Choose Your Career Cluster worksheet 10 min

Activator (Typically 5-10 minutes)

(How will you tap into the learners' background knowledge and help them view the lesson as relevant?)

Demonstrate the importance of choosing a career cluster by discussing the following points:

- Choosing high school courses that relate to your future career goals is important because:
 - High School will be more fun if you are taking classes that interest you
 - Since classes are organized by career cluster, identifying your favorite career cluster will ensure that you are taking interesting and relevant classes
 - By taking relevant classes, you will be prepared for the work in your post-secondary classes or to join the world of work

www.cfnc.org will:

- Help students to choose a career cluster using the cluster finder
- Allow students to save favorite career clusters in their portfolio
- Save student work



Core Learning Strategies/Lesson Activities (Typically 30-40 minutes)

(How will you facilitate the learning of knowledge/skills using adult learning strategies? How will you provide for skill practice? How will you differentiate learning, as appropriate, for different roles, skill levels, and experience?)

Session #	Step #	Responsibility	Action Steps
1	1	School counselor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on today's work: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Distributes the Choose Your favorite Career Cluster Worksheet Asks Students to sign into www.cfnc.org and click on the Career Planning Tab, then on Learn About Yourself
	2	Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses the Choose a Career Cluster Worksheet to assist with completing the Career Cluster Survey Answers the related questions on the worksheet
	3	Counselor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists students with the worksheet as needed
	4	Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completes reflection question, "Do you feel that your top Career Cluster is a good match for you? Why or Why Not?" in the <i>Your Journal</i> section of the <i>Your Portfolio</i> tab of www.cfnc.org (This question is also located on the student worksheet)
	5	Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saves the worksheet in a paper portfolio or attaches an electronic copy to their www.cfnc.org Portfolio

(Chart from RI School Counselor Association's Toolkits, found at www.rischoolcounselor.org)

Summarizer/Informal Assessment (Typically 5-10 minutes)

(How will you engage learners in processing and summarizing what they learned? How will you know that the objective has been achieved?)

- Complete reflection in Portfolio of www.cfnc.org .
- Attach worksheet to portfolio or save in a paper portfolio.
- Ask students to discuss whether or not their top career cluster was a good match.

Follow-Up

(What additional learning could occur during the year? When?)

- Student, parents and counselor will review information during course planning
- Students can complete additional research about their career cluster
- Students can job shadow someone who works in their favorite career cluster area
- Students can build a course plan based on their favorite career cluster



Choosing a Career Cluster

Follow the steps below and answer the related questions to find out which Career Cluster is the best match for you. Take your time and be sure to answer all of the questions in the survey as thoughtfully as you can so that you will get the most accurate results.

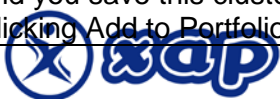
Part 1: Completing the Career Cluster Survey

1. Log into www.cfnc.org
2. Click on the Career Planning Tab and then click on Learn About Yourself.
3. Click on the Career Cluster Survey.
4. Read the instructions and then answer the questions in the survey. You'll be asked about Activities You Like, Personal Qualities, and your favorite School Subjects.
5. When you are finished with the survey, your Top Clusters will appear.

Part II: Answer the following questions about your Top Clusters

1. Look over the list of your top clusters and read their description. Does this sound like something that you would be interested in? Circle one: Yes No
2. If you circled 'No' scroll down to the bottom of the page to review your survey selections. Click on the title of any of the survey areas to add or delete items that may not present an accurate picture of who you are. This will improve the results of your survey.
3. If you circled 'Yes' (or once you've made changes to your survey responses) fill out the chart below with information about your top three clusters. You will need to click on the name of the cluster to learn some of the information. If you don't have three top clusters listed, select the next two clusters listed on your chart. You can read more about the clusters listed in the chart by click on the Career Planning Tab and then on Explore Careers. All of the career clusters are listed on the Explore Careers page.
4. Enter the information about the three clusters that you have selected into the chart below:

	Your Top Cluster	Your Second Cluster	Your Third Cluster
What is the name of the Career Cluster?			
How interested are you in this cluster on a scale of 1-5 with 1 being the highest?			
List three careers that are a part of this cluster			
List three programs that are a part if this cluster			
List 3 High School Courses that are recommended for this cluster			
Which Pathway(s) from this cluster are you the most interested in? – You'll be able to view the pathways on the introduction tab for the cluster			
Did you save this cluster by clicking Add to Portfolio on the			



left side of the screen?			
Would you consider a career in this cluster?			
Would you be be willing to complete the coursework required for this cluster?			

Reflection: In your portfolio journal (or on the back of this page), reflect on the following questions:
 “Do you feel that your top Career Cluster is a good match for you? Why or Why Not?”

