

## Career Outlook Scavenger Hunt

### Introduction

There are so many different career options to choose from- the possibilities can be overwhelming. Fortunately, there are lots of ways to select a career and narrow down the list. In addition to one's personal interests, there's also the number of available jobs, potential salary, and the amount of training, education, and/or certification or licensure required. This solo or pair activity will allow students to get more familiar with career options in growing fields and start thinking about what jobs they might be interested in and what exactly that entails from salary, education and training requirements, and day to day environmental conditions.

### Materials

- Computer or tablet with internet connection
- Printed handouts (see below)
- Pen/pencil

### Instructions

- Go to the Occupational Outlook Handbook on the Bureau of Labor Statistics website: [www.bls.gov/ooh](http://www.bls.gov/ooh)
- For the first task, Occupational Outlook, refer to the summary tables on the front page that identify careers meeting the following metrics:
  - Highest Paying- the 20 occupations with the highest median annual pay
  - Most New Jobs (Projected)- highest projected numeric change in employment
  - Fastest Growing (Projected)- highest projected percentage change in employment over the next 10 years

Identify several careers from these tables that meet each of the following levels of education/preparation: high school diploma, college degree and graduate degree.

- For the second task, Highlights of Favorite Occupations, students will use the same website to research up to five careers they are interested in and find out the following information from their profiles:
  - Work Tasks (What They Do): Identify several duties of this occupation
  - Salary (median annual wage)
  - Entry Requirements (How to Become One): What levels of education, work experience, and/or licenses/registrations are typically required?



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- Job Outlook: Is the career field growing or shrinking? Do the job prospects look good? Is the competition strong among prospective applicants? Are there large numbers of retirements expected?
- Interesting Tidbits (Work Environment): Is the work environment unique and/or dangerous (what are typical injuries)? What is the typical work schedule like? Does it require more than 40 hours a week?

## Take it from here

- Did you find any jobs that interested you? What were they?
- Did anything surprise you about what you found?
- How can you incorporate what you've learned in this activity into your Scholar Map?