Exploring Trending Careers

This lesson is designed to help students explore different careers based on their career category.

OBJECTIVES

Students will...

1. Learn about career categories and in-demand careers

2. Identify tops skills required for certain career categories

3. Explore top companies hiring for specific career categories

ACTIVITIES

PART 1

Content Knowledge

Lesson Pre-requisites: Students need to save at least three careers to their *My Career List* under the *Discover Careers* tab in MEFA Pathway before starting this lesson.

Lead a class discussion about in-demand careers and skills required to succeed in those careers.

Ask students:

1. What does an in-demand career mean?

2. Why is it important to understand the skills that top careers are seeking?

3. Do you think location impacts what careers are considered "in demand"?

4. How can you figure out what careers are in demand?

Encourage students to take notes. They can use these notes to write their reflection.

PART 2

Applying Information

Have students log in to MEFA Pathway and navigate to their *My Career List* under the *Discover Careers* tab. Students should select three different career categories from their list (e.g. Health Science, Education & Training). Once students have selected their three career categories, they should navigate to *Now Trending* on the *Investigate Your Future* page.

Grade Level: 10

MEFA PATHWAY SECTIONS WITHIN THIS LESSON:
- My Journal
- Now Trending
- My Careers

DOMAIN:
- College & Career Exploration

TIME:
- 45 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED:
- Internet connection to work with the MEFA Pathway website
- *How to Use LinkedIn in High School* blog post

FUTURE READY SKILLS:
- Professional Networking
- Critical Thinking
- Decision Making

VOCABULARY:
- In-demand careers
- LinkedIn

Email any questions to:
k12support@mefa.org

PATHWAY

LESSON
PLAN

Within *Now Trending*, students will review careers and skills that are in demand. Students should adjust the filter location to the state in which they wish to live and the filter career category to be one selected from their list.

Once the filters are applied, have students look at the top careers in their career category. Students should pay attention to the skills and technology skills for the career category. Students should also pay attention to the companies that are hiring. Have students repeat this with each of their chosen career categories. Encourage students to make note of the career category that most aligns with their skills.

PART 3

Evaluating Information

After students have completed the *Now Trending* activity, have them write an entry in their *My Journal* under the *Create Profile* tab in which they answer the following questions:

1. What did you learn about in-demand careers?

2. Were there any in-demand careers that surprised you?

3. Did the list of in-demand careers change based on location?

4. Were you interested in any of the top companies that are hiring for in-demand careers?

PART 4

Critical Thinking/Creative Application

As an optional activity, students can create a LinkedIn account. Have students read CollegeVine's blog post, *How to Use LinkedIn in High School*. While browsing careers in the *Now Trending* activity, the top companies that are hiring will link out to open positions on LinkedIn.

MEFA | pathway™

Exploring Trending Careers
Grading Rubric

CATEGORY	EXCELLENT 4	GOOD 3	SATISFACTORY 2	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT 1
Sequencing of Information	The information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Most information is organized in a clear, logical way.	Some information is logically sequenced.	There is no clear plan for the organization of information.
Effectiveness	The entry includes all material needed to give a good understanding of the topic.	The entry is lacking one or two key elements.	The entry is missing more than two key elements.	The entry is lacking several key elements and has inaccuracies.
Font Choice & Formatting	Font formats (size, bold, italic) have been carefully planned to enhance readability and content.	Font formats have been carefully planned to enhance readability.	Font formats have been carefully planned to complement the content. It may be a little hard to read.	Font formatting makes it very difficult to read the material.
Conventions. Student uses proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	The entry has no misspellings or grammatical errors.	The entry has 1- 2 misspellings, but no grammatical errors.	The entry has 1- 2 grammatical errors but no misspellings.	The entry has more than 2 grammatical and/or spelling errors.

MEFA | pathway ™