

Lesson Plan - Career Sectors

Objective: To introduce the idea of career sectors.

Resources Needed:

Worksheet - Career Sector Investigator
Workbook - Career Sector Investigation
Online resources - CareersPortal.ie Industry Sectors

Discussion:

A career sector is a collection of occupations that have something in common, for example, the type of work they do or their role in the economy. Very often people are attracted to the products or services provided by a particular sector, and seek to find employment close to the essence of that area.

Career sectors often have no clear boundaries between them. People are often attracted to a particular career, and may be unaware of similar occupation types within the same sector.

Investigating career sectors can open a students mind to the breadth of career areas that exist, and can assist in identifying an area to research further.

In this lesson plan, students select sectors that interest them, complete an investigation of the sector, and present their findings back to the class.

Method:

- ➡ Distribute the 'Career Sector Investigator' worksheet to each student and ask them to complete them.
- ➡ When completed, each student should have identified several sectors in which they show some interest. Ask each student to choose one of these sectors to investigate further.

Notes: Try to ensure that as wide a range of sectors are investigated as possible. In some cases, students may have to select their second or third choice to achieve this. It is also possible to get students to work in pairs to complete the task.

- ➡ Distribute the "Career Sector Investigation" workbook to each student, and indicate that this is to be used to help collect information about their chosen sector from a session in the computer room.
 - ➡ Talk through the workbook so as to ensure that students understand the task.
 - ➡ Bring students to the computer room and get them to go to www.careersportal.ie.
 - ➡ Ask students to select 'Employment Sectors' from the Career Exploration Toolbox.
 - ➡ Ask students to select their chosen sector and complete the workbook with the information required.
 - ➡ Draw the students attention to the 'Ask the Experts' section where available.
 - ➡ Conclude the session when students have successfully completed the investigation. If time runs out they should be asked to complete the form after an additional session.
- ➡ In a follow-up class, ask each student to present their research to the class by giving a short, 2 minute presentation of their findings.
 - ➡ Keep the worksheets and workbooks in the students Career File for future reference.

Note: Encourage students to get information from other resources if available, including printed material, e.g Student Yearbook, Career Choice etc.