

Lesson 1: Careers and Skill Matching

Objective:
Students will identify and explore careers that are a good match for their skills and strengths.
Overview:
Students will take a survey that rates their skills and then provides them with information about careers that match their strengths.

Lesson preparation:	Activity
<p>Teacher and students will need access to the internet.</p> <p>Open the PowerPoint for Lesson 1. Print copies of the Lesson 1 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 labeled "Skills Matcher." This is the link students will explore in this lesson.</p> <p>Become familiar with the "Skills Matcher" survey before the lesson. The skills survey is explained at https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Skills/skills-matcher-help.aspx.</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 link at the bottom. Find the link in the table labeled "Skills Matcher." This is the link students will explore in this lesson.</p> <p>After completing the survey and obtaining their list of potential careers, students will explore links to the careers on the list of matches. Use the filter at the top to sort by average pay, typical education required, and the outlook (new job opportunities expected) for jobs in that field.</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>If students think that their careers do not match their interests, have them click on Change Answers on the Careers page. They should review some of their answers and change them.</p> <p>The Skills Matcher website can be presented in Spanish. The button in the top right corner will change the website to Spanish.</p>	<p>Discuss what students learned about careers that match their skill sets. Ask them to talk about careers that interest them, including education required and job outlook. If they dig deeper on a career, they can look at current job postings for the career.</p> <p>Ask students to share a career they did not know about that matches their skill set. Discuss why information about whether a field is growing could be important.</p>