

Kuder Activities Lesson 1: Teacher Guide

The objective of this lesson is to acquaint students with a method of organizing the approximate 1,000 occupations available in the United States into 16 industry-based clusters from the National Career Clusters™ Framework.

Introduction to Assignment

The U.S. Department of Labor has defined approximately 1,000 occupations that exist in today's economy. One common method of organizing them is through the 16 National career clusters, which categorizes occupations by the type of industry or service that the work provides as well as by the level of education or training needed to enter the occupations. The goal of this activity is to make students aware of this method of organization. If students complete the Kuder Career Interests Assessment®, its score report provides a rank-ordered presentation of the degree of interest in each of their top five career pathways (sub-groups within clusters) as well as in these 16 clusters. Cluster choice can also be used as a basis for making high school course selections.

Online Activity

Log in to Kuder Navigator® (<http://www.indianacareerexplorer.org>) and hand out the student worksheet(s). Your students should all have access to their individual accounts. If they do not, you can obtain their login information from your Kuder Administrative Database Management System® or check with your site administrator (typically your career teacher or school counselor). Even if students only have their user names, they can reset their passwords.

Although the worksheet is self-explanatory, you may want to walk through the assignment yourself prior to leading students through the activity in case they need assistance.

Post-Activity Discussion

After students have completed this activity, facilitate a discussion using the following questions:

- Which cluster(s) appealed to you most? Why?
- Which educational entry level did you choose?
- What are some of the occupations that appealed to you?
- Which pathway(s) appealed to you most? Why?

- If you were to pursue occupations in your favorite pathway/cluster, what kinds of courses would you need to take in high school?

Alternative Approach

Group students together by their favorite pathways or clusters, making sure there are at least three students in each group. Ask them to discuss why they chose that pathway or cluster, how they've developed an interest in that kind of work, and what some of the occupations are that they could pursue.