Lesson Overview

Exploring Career Factors

- **Recommended Grade**: 9th
- **Length**: 75 Minutes

About This Lesson

To identify factors that may influence their career decisions, students will identify factors that are important to them, understand and prioritize 6 common factors when exploring career options, and rank important factors for 3 saved careers.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- investigate important factors: work/life balance, money, making a difference, education, interests, and career growth
- assess which core factors are important to them when making a career decision
- prioritize core factors that influence their career decisions
- rank important factors for 3 saved careers

Driving Question

What factors may influence my career decisions?

Future-Ready Skills

- Respecting Differences
- Understanding Others' Perspectives
- Prioritizing
- Evaluating

Lesson Breakdown

**Activity 1 - Factors for Saving a Career**

Guide students to their My Saved Options in Xello to review 3 career profiles and identify how they feel about the career by choosing an emoji at the top of the profile. Within each career profile have them identify factors that influenced their decision by recording them under the Explore This Career: Likes and Dislikes card. What do you like about this career that influenced you to save it? Then, have students share their factors with a partner. When comparing factors, how are they similar or different? Do you agree or disagree with any of your partner’s factors?

**Activity 2 - Xello Lesson: Exploring Career Factors**

Direct students to complete the Xello Lesson titled Exploring Career Factors to help them understand and prioritize 6 common factors when exploring career options.

**Activity 3 - Asking the Important Questions**

In this activity, students will dig deeper on 3 careers they have saved to make sure they're exploring careers that align with their top factors. They will record their findings in the Explore This Career section of each career profile.

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**Xello Entry Point**

Students need to save 3 careers before starting this lesson. It's also recommended they've completed Matchmaker assessment and Xello's lesson Explore Career Matches.

**Vocabulary**

- Career factors
- Career demand
- Education/training
- Career field
- Working conditions
- Earnings/money
- Growth
- Interests
- Making a difference
- Work/Life balance
Exploring Career Factors

Activity 3 - Asking the Important Questions

Inquiry Prompts
• How well do my saved careers rank on important factors?

Teaching Strategies
In this activity, students will dig deeper on 3 careers they have saved to make sure they’re exploring careers that align with their top factors. They will record their findings in the Explore This Career section of each career profile.

Materials Required
• Student Instructions
• Computer or tablet with internet access

Artifacts
For 3 saved careers, students will add their list of important questions to the My Notes card under the Explore This Career section and complete the Important Factors card.

Provide the instructions on the next page to your students.
Student Instructions

1. In the Xello lesson titled Exploring Career Factors you identified a list of important questions you’d ask to make sure that any career you’re exploring aligns with your top factors. From your Xello dashboard re-open this lesson to find this list of questions (under section 4), select and copy the whole list, and then navigate to one of your saved careers.

2. In the My Notes card under Explore This Career paste your list of questions to guide your investigation into 6 common factors that influence career decisions.

3. Work through your list of questions one by one, reviewing the career profile to help you determine how well the career ranks on each factor.

4. In the Important Factors card under Explore This Career record a star ranking for each factor based on your review of the career profile using your list of questions from the Xello lesson.

5. Rank the Important Factors for 2 more saved careers. Make sure to copy and paste your list of questions into the My Notes card for these careers as well.

6. OPTIONAL: After ranking the Important Factors for 3 saved careers determine which career came out on top. In the My Notes card of this career, add a written reflection for 3 of your important questions.