

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS

MEET THE CAREER CLUSTERS: LESSON 1

Summary:

Students explore how Career Clusters relate to specific careers and learn examples of careers within each Career Cluster.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Define and describe Career Clusters
- Explain how Career Clusters relate to real world jobs

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to CFWV.com
- Copy of **Meet the Career Clusters** worksheet
- Copy of **Career Clusters and a Carton of Ice Cream** worksheet
- Image of a carton of ice cream (projected, screen share, or actual carton)

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will learn to define and describe each Career Cluster. They will also develop an understanding of how Career Clusters relate to various industries. As an introduction, students will learn that careers from any Career Cluster can relate to topics that they are interested in. They discover this by brainstorming how every Career Cluster is involved in the production or use of a carton of ice cream while completing the **Career Clusters and a Carton of Ice Cream** worksheet as a group. During the main activity, students will complete the **Meet the Career Clusters** worksheet where they match a career to each Career Cluster

Preparation:

1. Before the lesson begins, display a carton of ice cream. You can use a picture, a real (empty) carton, or project an image onto your smartboard, etc.
2. Print the **Meet the Career Clusters** worksheet
3. Print the **Career Clusters and a Carton of Ice Cream** worksheet.

Warm up:

4. Tell the students that in today's lesson, you will be learning about the Career Clusters.
5. Read aloud the definition of Career Clusters:
 - **Career Clusters** are groups of careers that share similar skills and interests. Students interested in specific careers can find related options that might interest them by using the clusters. There are 16 Career Clusters that are subdivided into Career Pathways.
6. To ensure the students understand the concept of Career Clusters, ask them to match several careers that you name with the correct Career Cluster.
7. Write Nurse, Carpenter, Counselor and Engineer on the board. Say something like, "Which of these careers do you think is part of the Health Science Career Cluster?" Wait for a student to answer "Nurse". Then ask which career belongs in the Human Services Career Cluster (Counselor), the Architecture and Construction Career Cluster (Electrician), and the Science, Engineering, Technology, and Mathematics Career Cluster (Engineer).
8. Add more examples of your own if students need additional practice.
9. Once the students are demonstrating a general understanding of the Career Clusters by matching career

titles to the correct Career Cluster, move onto the activity below.

Activity Part I:

1. Distribute the **Career Clusters and a Carton of Ice Cream** worksheet.
2. Give students a few minutes to read over the names of each Career Cluster. Alternately, you can briefly describe each Career Cluster to the class.
3. Tell the class that they are going to brainstorm which Career Clusters have jobs that are involved with a carton of ice cream. This involvement begins with the development of the recipe, to acquiring the ingredients, all the way to the day it is purchased from the grocery store and carried home to be eaten.
4. Lead the class in a brainstorming discussion during which they name a Career Cluster and explain how it relates to the carton of ice cream. Tell them that not all the answers are obvious and to think creatively. Students should write the answer down as you brainstorm as a class. Students do not need to name an exact career title. They can describe a general activity from each Career Cluster.
5. If the class does not eventually name all 16 Career Clusters, you can share that ALL Career Clusters are related to the carton of ice cream. Share the examples below or think of your own.
 - Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources: Dairy Farmer raises and milks the cows
 - Architecture and Construction: Architect designs the store or factory
 - Arts, A/V Technology and Communication: Graphic Artist designs the package
 - Business, Management and Administration: Store manager runs the grocery store
 - Education and Training: Driving instructor trains the truck drivers who transport the ice cream
 - Finance: Accountant manages the finances for the ice cream manufacturer
 - Government & Public Administration: FDA Inspector inspects the factory
 - Health Science: Nutritionist analyzes the nutrition content of the ice cream
 - Hospitality and Tourism: Restaurant Manager offers the ice cream in the restaurant
 - Human Services: Childcare worker cares for the children of the store staff
 - Information Technology: Computer programmer develops software for cash registers
 - Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security: Security guard at the grocery store
 - Manufacturing: Factory workers manage production
 - Marketing: Advertising Manager designs the sales campaign.
 - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics: Chemist ensures ice cream is shelf stable
 - Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics: Transportation workers supervisor ensures the ice cream is shipped
6. Once it has been established that all 16 Career Clusters can relate to a carton of ice cream, ask the students to think about something that they are interested in. It might be a sport, social media, a particular hobby, etc. Remind them that they can connect careers from any Career Cluster to their area of interest.

Activity Part II:

1. Distribute the **Meet the Career Clusters** worksheet.
2. Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then go to **Explore Careers**. Point out the Career Clusters on the **Explore Careers** page. Students may use the Career Clusters as they complete their worksheet, or they can make their best guess.
3. Ask students to complete the **Meet the Career Clusters** worksheet independently or in pairs to match all the careers with the correct Career Cluster.

Wrap Up:

1. Review the answers with your students.
2. Ask them if they discovered anything that surprised them? Do they have a favorite Career Cluster?
3. Answer any remaining questions.



THE CAREER CLUSTERS AND A CARTON OF ICE CREAM

How many of the career clusters are involved in producing a carton of ice cream – from the development of the recipe to the day it is purchased from the grocery store counter and carried home to be eaten? In the blank beside each of the 16 career clusters, briefly explain how each career cluster is involved in producing a carton of ice cream.



CAREER CLUSTER	HOW IS IT INVOLVED IN A CARTON OF ICE CREAM?
Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	
Architecture and Construction	
Arts, A/V Technology and Communication	
Business, Management and Administration	
Education and Training	
Finance	
Government & Public Administration:	
Health Science	
Hospitality and Tourism	
Human Services:	
Information Technology	
Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security	
Manufacturing	
Marketing	
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	
Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	



MEET THE CAREER CLUSTERS

Match each of the careers listed below to the correct Career Cluster.

Firefighter	Purchasing Manager	Comic Illustrator	Coach
Advertising Manager	Pharmacy Technician	Chemical Engineer	Computer Programmer
Social Worker	Accountant	Food Scientist	Court Clerk
Airline Pilot	Electrician	Aircraft Assembler	Tour Guide

CAREER CLUSTER	MATCHING CAREER
Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	
Architecture and Construction	
Arts, A/V Technology and Communication	
Business, Management and Administration	
Education and Training	
Finance	
Government & Public Administration:	
Health Science	
Hospitality and Tourism	
Human Services:	
Information Technology	
Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security	
Manufacturing	
Marketing	
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	
Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	



MEET THE CAREER CLUSTERS ANSWER KEY

Match each of the careers listed below to the correct Career Cluster.

Firefighter	Purchasing Manager	Comic Illustrator	Coach
Advertising Manager	Pharmacy Technician	Chemical Engineer	Computer Programmer
Social Worker	Accountant	Food Scientist	Court Clerk
Airline Pilot	Electrician	Aircraft Assembler	Tour Guide

CAREER CLUSTER	MATCHING CAREER
Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	<i>Food Scientist</i>
Architecture and Construction	<i>Electrician</i>
Arts, A/V Technology and Communication	<i>Comic Illustrator</i>
Business, Management and Administration	<i>Purchasing Manager</i>
Education and Training	<i>Coach</i>
Finance	<i>Accountant</i>
Government & Public Administration:	<i>Court Clerk</i>
Health Science	<i>Pharmacy Technician</i>
Hospitality and Tourism	<i>Tour Guide</i>
Human Services:	<i>Social Worker</i>
Information Technology	<i>Computer Programmer</i>
Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security	<i>Firefighter</i>
Manufacturing	<i>Aircraft Assembler</i>
Marketing	<i>Advertising Manager</i>
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	<i>Chemical Engineer</i>
Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	<i>Airline Pilot</i>

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS MEET THE CAREER PATHWAYS: LESSON 2

Summary:

Students learn how careers are organized into subcategories called pathways within the Career Cluster.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Define a Career Pathway
- Match careers to the correct Career Pathway
- Describe similarities between Career Pathways within a Cluster
- Complete a Career Cluster/Pathway diagram

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of **Meet the Career Pathways** worksheet
- A blank sheet of paper for each student

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will learn to define a Career Pathway. They will also develop an understanding of how Career Pathways are organized within the Career Clusters. As an introduction, students will learn the concept of categories and subcategories using popular movie genres. During the main activity, students will learn to define a Career Pathway. Students will then match careers to the correct Career Pathway within the Architecture and Construction Career Cluster. Next, students will compare careers from different pathways in the same Career Cluster and describe how they are similar. Last, students fill out their own Career Cluster/Career Pathway diagram.

Preparation:

- Print the **Meet the Career Pathways** worksheet.
- Before the lesson begins, write Comedy and Tragedy on your board or screen. Leave enough space to add additional categories.

Warm up:

- Explain to students that movies can be organized into two broad categories – comedy and drama.
- Ask students to work with a partner and create a list on a blank sheet of paper of as many comedies that they can think of and then as many dramas that they can think of.
- After 5 minutes, ask each pair of partners to share their list of comedies and write them on the board.
- Ask the class to think of any subcategories in that list. Examples might include superhero, romance, slapstick, dark comedy, mockumentary, parody, etc.
- Write the subcategories on your board along with the associated movies.
- Repeat this process with drama. If you experience a time constraint, be sure that there are at least three sub-categories under comedy and three sub-categories under drama so that students understand the concept of sub-categories. Examples of the subcategories of drama include: historical, psychological, legal, crime, procedural, etc.
- Once the students are demonstrating a general understanding of the concept of sub-categories, move on to the next activity.

Activity:

- Distribute the **Meet the Career Pathways** worksheet
- Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then go to **Explore Careers**. Point out the Career Clusters on Explore Careers page. Students will reference the Career Clusters and the related Career Pathways as they complete their worksheet.
- Direct your students' attention to the **Meet the Career Pathways** worksheet.
- Tell the students that in today's lesson, you will be learning about the Career Pathways – which are subcategories of the Career Clusters.
- Ask students to read the definition of Career Pathways on the **Meet the Career Pathways** worksheet.
- Then ask students to click on the Architecture and Construction Career Cluster within CFWV.com. As a group, review the pathways within the Architecture and Construction Career Cluster. Discuss the similarities and differences between the pathways. Ask the students, which pathway has the most careers? Which pathway has careers that require the most education? And the least education? Which pathway has the highest paying job? Note – the filters on the pathway will allow students to sort the list to find the answers.
- Next, ask students to complete the Architecture & Construction Career Pathways activity on the worksheet by sorting the list of careers into the correct Career Pathway within the Architecture & Construction Career Cluster. They can use CFWV.com to confirm their answers. Review the correct answers with the class.
- Next, students will answer a question about the similarities and differences between the Architecture & Construction Career Pathways.
- Finally, ask students to move to the Build Your Own Career Cluster and Career Pathway Diagram activity on the worksheet. Ask the students to populate this blank Cluster template based on their own favorite Career Cluster.

Wrap Up:

- Ask students to share their favorite Career Cluster and the associated pathways as a group or with a partner.
- Ask them if they discovered anything that surprised them? Do they have a favorite Career Pathway?
- Answer any remaining questions.



MEET THE CAREER PATHWAYS

Career Pathways are small groups of occupation categories within each Career Cluster.

Build a Career Cluster and Career Pathway diagram by sorting the following list of careers into the appropriate Career Pathway within the Architecture & Construction Career Cluster. You can open the Career Cluster within CFWV.com to look up the answers or check your work.

Carpenter	Heating or Air Conditioning Mechanic	Civil Drafter
Architect	Electrician	Surveyor
Landscaper	Brickmason	Electrical Power-line Installer

CAREER CLUSTER	CAREER PATHWAYS	CAREERS (3 PER PATHWAY)
Architecture & Construction	Construction	
	Design/Pre-Construction	
	Maintenance/Operations	

How are the careers in each of the Architecture and Construction Pathways similar? How are they different? Write your answer in the box below.

Build your Own Career Cluster and Career Pathways Diagram:

Choose your favorite Career Cluster within CFWV.com. Write the name of the Career Cluster in the first column in the chart below, then write the name of every Career Pathway in that Cluster in the second column. Remember - every Career Cluster has a different number of Career Pathways within it, so you may not use all the rows. Write one career name from each Career Pathway in the last column.

CAREER CLUSTER	CAREER PATHWAYS	ONE CAREER NAME

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS USING THE CAREER CLUSTERS MAP: LESSON 3

Summary:

Students learn how to locate and report on Career Cluster and Career Pathway information within CFWV.com.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify their favorite Career Cluster based on the Career Cluster Map.
- List programs, majors, and volunteering experiences related to their favorite career cluster.
- Locate information within a Career Cluster Profile on CFWV.com
- List three favorite career choices from within their top Career Cluster.

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of the **Using the Career Clusters Map** worksheet

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will complete the Career Cluster Map Activity within CFWV.com. Students will then identify their favorite Career Cluster. Students will complete the **Using the Career Clusters Map** worksheet.

Preparation:

- Print the **Using the Career Clusters Map** worksheet

Warm up:

1. Write "Your Favorite Career Cluster" on the board.
2. Explain to students that today they will be completing a short survey called the Career Cluster Map to see which Career Clusters interest them the most.
3. Tell students that they will be reading about and rating each Career Cluster. There are no right or wrong answers – they should choose their rating using their best guess about how much the Cluster will interest them.
4. Remind students that this is not a "final" decision. They will have more opportunities to learn about different Career Clusters and research them further. They may find out from their research that they don't prefer their initial top choice after all. They may also discover that their top choice Career Cluster is an even better fit than they originally thought.

Activity:

1. Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to **Your Portfolio** and click **School-to-College-to-Work**. It will be at the top of **Your Portfolio** landing page for middle school students and at the bottom of the page for high school students.

2. Ask students to click the **Career Cluster Map** activity. They should rate each of the 16 Career Clusters and then answer the questions at the end. This will include selecting their current favorite Career Cluster.
3. Ask students to share feedback about the assessment. Answer any questions that they may have.
4. Remind students that these results will be saved in CFWV.com.
5. Distribute **The Using the Career Clusters Map** worksheet and ask students to write down the name of their favorite Career Cluster in the space provided near the top of the worksheet.
6. In CFWV.com, ask students to navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then go to **Explore Careers**. Point out the Career Clusters on the Explore Careers page. Students will reference the Career Clusters as they complete their worksheet.
7. Ask students to answer all the questions on the worksheet to expand their knowledge about their favorite Career Cluster.
8. Finally, they should complete the reflection.
9. As a class or in small groups, ask students to discuss their answers. This will give students an opportunity to learn about additional Career Clusters.

Wrap Up:

- Ask students to share which Career Cluster they chose to learn about.
- Tell the students you are taking a vote to see who still likes the same Career Cluster and who has changed their mind. Ask them to raise their hands if this is still their favorite career. Then ask them to raise their hands if they have changed their mind and now prefer a different career cluster.
- Remind the students that it's okay to change their mind. They will have more opportunities to learn about Career Clusters and careers.



THE CAREER CLUSTERS & CFWV.COM

Write the name of your favorite career cluster below. Then answer the questions and complete the reflection that follows. To find the answers, login to CFWV.com and then navigate to the Career Planning tab and then open the Explore Careers Section. All Career Clusters are listed on the Explore Careers page.

My Favorite Career Cluster:

Why did you choose this Career Cluster?

Click the name of your Career Cluster in CFWV.com and then click Introduction on the right side of the screen to answer the following questions.

1. How many careers are in this Career Cluster?
2. How many programs are in this Career Cluster?
3. How many pathways are in this Career Cluster?
4. Watch the short video on the page. What is one interesting thing you learned?

Click Careers on the right side of the page to answer the next set of questions.

1. Using the "Sort by:" menu, sort the careers by Average salary (High to Low). What is the highest paying career in this Career Cluster?
2. Now sort the careers by Average salary (Low to High). Depending on your Career Cluster, you may see one or more pages of careers that have no salary, education or job outlook information. These were added by student request and do not have official data. Click through the pages until you find the lowest paying career for your Career Cluster and list it here
3. Use any of the filters to explore careers on your own. Write down at three careers that look interesting to you, right now.

Next click Programs & Majors on the right side of the screen. Then use the checkboxes to explore programs related to different levels of education. Then answer the questions below.

1. Which education level has the most programs associated with it?
2. Which education level has the least programs associated with it?
3. Do any education levels have no careers associated with it?
4. What is one program or major that seems interesting to you, right now?

Next click Volunteering & Recreation on the right side of the screen to answer the questions below.

1. Which Volunteering Profile looks most interesting to you?
2. Which Recreation Profile looks like it would be something that you would enjoy?

Reflection: Now that you've learned more about this Career Cluster, is it still your favorite Career Cluster? Why or why not?

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS

RELATING THE CAREER CLUSTERS TO INTERESTS, SKILLS & ABILITIES: LESSON 4

Summary:

Students learn how interests and skills relate to Career Clusters and apply that information to sorting careers into the correct Career Cluster.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Explain how skills, interests and abilities relate to Career Clusters
- Articulate similarities between careers in a Career Cluster.

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of the **Relating Career Clusters to Interests, Skills & Abilities** worksheet
- Blank sheet of paper

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will learn the concept of skills, interests, and abilities. Next, they will identify their own skills, interests, and abilities. Students will then evaluate how careers within a Career Cluster share interests, skills, and abilities.

Preparation:

- Print the **Relating Career Clusters to Interests, Skills & Abilities** worksheet
- Write “Skills”, “Interests”, and “Abilities” on the board.

Warm up:

1. Briefly explain the definition of skills, interests, and abilities. Use the examples in each definition below or choose examples that are meaningful to your students. You can also share examples of your own skills, interests, and abilities.
 - **Skills** are things that you have learned how to do very well through practice. For example, you might have developed skills like drawing, playing soccer, singing, growing plants, caring for your pet, keeping your room organized, building complicated Lego creations or teaching. To discover your own skills, think about things that you’ve learned to do well at home, at school, in extracurricular activities or for fun.
 - **Interests** are things that you want to give your attention to, spend time doing, or be involved with. You naturally like these things. You might be interested in the outdoors, or nature. You may be interested in travel, history, or other cultures. You maybe be interested in cooking, playing video games, or learning how things work. To discover your own interests, think about what you spend time doing or thinking about when you get to choose for yourself how you will spend your time.
 - **Abilities** are similar to skills, but they’re not exactly the same. Abilities are your natural talents or things that come easily to you. For example, you may be a naturally good singer, even without any training (if you practice, you will become SKILLED at your ability). You may have a natural ability to repair things or build something. You might have abilities at sports, memorization, or leadership. To discover your own abilities, think about what comes easily to you at school, at home or in other activities.

2. Next, ask students to take out a blank sheet of paper and divide it into three sections. They should label the three sections with the words “Skills”, “Interests”, and “Abilities”.
3. Tell students that they will have five minutes to write down their own skills, interests, and abilities in each section.
4. When students are finished, tell them that Career Clusters include careers that share similar skills, interests, and abilities. If you like one career in a Cluster, you’ll probably enjoy other careers within that Career Cluster.

Activity:

1. Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then click **Explore Careers**. Students can look at the Career Clusters to help with the worksheet.
2. Distribute the **Relating Career Clusters to Interests, Skills & Abilities** worksheet.
3. Ask students to complete the worksheet by reading about 3 careers from the listed Career Cluster. They will then describe what interests, skills and abilities these careers have in common. Note: Skills and abilities have been combined to make the task easier for students.
4. Tell students that they will then select 3 careers from a Career Cluster of their own choice and write about what interests, skills and abilities those careers have in common.

Wrap Up:

- Ask students to share which Career Clusters seem to be the closest match to their own skills, interests and abilities.
- Give the class an opportunity to ask questions.



RELATING CAREER CLUSTERS TO INTERESTS, SKILLS & ABILITIES

Learn about the three careers listed in each Career Cluster chart by reading about them on CFV.com. Then, answer the questions in the chart.

Arts, Audio-Video Technology & Communications Career Cluster	
	Careers: Actor, Ballet Dancer, Magician
What interests do these careers share?	
What skills and abilities do these careers share?	

Health Science Career Cluster	
	Careers: Athletic Trainer, Dental Hygienist, Home Health Aide
What interests do these careers share?	
What skills and abilities do these careers share?	

Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Career Cluster	
	Careers: Criminal Investigator, Police Patrol Officer, Detective
What interests do these careers share?	
What skills and abilities do these careers share?	

Fill in the next chart on your own by choosing a Career Cluster and listing three careers from that Career Cluster. Then answer the questions.

Choose your Own Career Cluster	
	Career Cluster:
	Three Careers:
What interests do these careers share?	
What skills and abilities do these careers share?	

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS USING THE CAREER CLUSTER SURVEY: LESSON 5

Summary:

Students will complete the Career Cluster Survey and identify the Career Cluster that is the best match for their skills and abilities.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify a favorite Career Cluster
- Explain how their own skills, interests and abilities relate to their top Career Cluster.
- Identify their favorite Career Pathway

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of the **Using the Career Cluster Survey** worksheet

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will complete the Career Cluster Survey and identify their top two Career Cluster choices. Students will then complete a worksheet that asks them to reflect on how their top Career Clusters relate to their skills and interests. They will then select a Career Pathway preference and several career options from each of their favorite Career Clusters.

Preparation:

- Print the **Using the Career Cluster Survey** worksheet.

Warm up:

1. Tell students that they will be completing the **Career Cluster Survey** in CFWV.com. Explain that the **Career Cluster Survey** is a short quiz with three checklists – an activities checklist, a personal qualities checklist, and a school subject checklist. By answering all questions thoughtfully and honestly, the results can help them to narrow down their Career Cluster preferences.
2. Remind students that there are no right or wrong answers and that no two students will answer the survey in the same way.

Activity Part I:

1. Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then click **Learn About Yourself** and then click the **Career Cluster Survey**.
2. Depending on your classroom setup, either you or your students can click the **camera icon** to play a short video describing the Career Clusters and the Career Cluster Survey.
3. Ask students to complete the **Career Cluster Survey**. This should take around 15 minutes. If students need help defining any words, it's ok to assist them.
4. When students are finished, review the results as a group. Explain that students might have one top cluster or several. Ask students to look at the bar graph to see how close their results are. This is especially beneficial if students are surprised or disappointed by their results. It may be that the second-best match was nearly a tie with their top match.
5. Show students how to click on the name of one of their top Career Cluster results to access the Career Cluster Profile. From the Career Cluster Profile, students can use the menu on the right-hand side to

review careers, programs and majors, recommended plans of study, and volunteering & recreation option that are related to the Career Cluster.

6. Give students 5-10 minutes to explore their top Career Cluster(s).

Activity Part II:

1. Distribute the **Using the Career Cluster Survey** worksheet.
2. Ask students to complete the worksheet by answering questions related to their top two Career Cluster preferences.

Wrap Up:

- Ask the students to reflect on their results as a class or in pairs.
- Give the class an opportunity to ask questions.



USING THE CAREER CLUSTER SURVEY WORKSHEET

After completing the Career Cluster Survey, answer the following questions about your favorite Career Clusters. If you need additional space to write, use the back of this sheet.

CAREER CLUSTER #1	
What is the name of this Career Cluster?	
Is this Career Cluster a good match for your interests, skills, and abilities? Why or why not?	
Which Career Pathway(s) within this Career Cluster look the most interesting to you?	
Which 3 careers within this Career Cluster would you like to explore further?	
Which programs or majors within this Career Cluster sound like a good fit for you?	
Which volunteering or recreation experiences within this Career Cluster would you enjoy?	
Career Cluster #2	
What is the name of this Career Cluster?	
Is this Career Cluster a good match for your interests, skills, and abilities? Why or why not?	
Which Career Pathway(s) within this Career Cluster look the most interesting to you?	
Which careers within this Career Cluster would you like to explore further?	
Do any programs or majors within this Career Cluster sound like a good fit for you?	
Which volunteering or recreation experiences within this Career Cluster would you enjoy?	

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS

GET TO KNOW UNCOMMON CAREERS: LESSON 6

Summary:

Students will complete the Career Cluster Survey and identify the Career Cluster and Career Pathway that are the best match for their skills and abilities.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Identify additional careers within the Career Clusters
- Describe emerging, uncommon or unusual careers

Time Needed: 45 minutes to complete the activity, plus 1 minute per student to complete a short presentation.

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of the **Uncommon Careers Part 1** worksheet
- Copy of the **Uncommon Careers Part 2** worksheet
- Blank sheet of paper

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will brainstorm a list of every career that they can think of and add other student's careers to the list. Even with this lengthy list, there are many more careers in the world – some that they have never heard of. Each student will then search for the most unusual career that they can find in each of 8 clusters and enter them into the Uncommon Careers worksheet. Students will choose the *most* unusual career that they can find. They will create a one minute “sales pitch” on why someone should consider this unusual career. As each career is shared, the class will track which Career Cluster the Career is part of. At the end, you will see which Career Cluster had the largest number of uncommon careers.

Preparation:

- Print the **Uncommon Careers** worksheet.

Warm up:

1. Tell students that there are hundreds of careers in the world and new careers are emerging every day. There are many careers that exist today that did not exist when they were born – like Social Media Marketer, for example.
2. Tell the students they will start today with a challenge. They will have 3 minutes to brainstorm a list of every career that they can think of – without looking in CFWV.com. At the end, they will see which student has been able to come up with the longest list.
3. When students have their papers and pencils ready, set a timer for three minutes and say, “Begin!”. Give students a two-minute warning, one-minute warning, thirty-second warning, ten-second warning, and then say, “Pencil's down.”
4. Ask students to count the number of careers in their list and write that number at the top of the page.
5. Identify who has the largest number of careers. Ask that students to read their list of careers out loud and ask the rest of the class to check off the career on their own list as it is read out loud. They should write down any new careers that are mentioned.

6. Ask the student with the second highest number of careers on their list to name any careers that have not been mentioned yet and ask everyone else to check off those job titles and write down any new careers that are mentioned.
7. When everyone has shared any unique careers on their list, everyone should have a long list of careers.
8. Tell the students that this is only the beginning of the hundreds of careers available in the world. That is too many careers to explore, which is why we have the Career Clusters. Once a student identifies one or more Career Clusters that interest them the most, it will be easier to explore a variety of careers that interest them – including careers that they've never heard of before.
9. In today's activity, the students will be looking for the most uncommon career in each Career Cluster. This may be a career that is brand new to them or else it might be a career that they rarely hear about.

Activity Part I:

1. Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then go to **Explore Careers** and scroll down to the Career Clusters.
2. Distribute the **Uncommon Careers (Part 1)** worksheet to half of the class and the **Uncommon Careers (Part 2)** worksheet to the other half of the class. (There are two worksheets to save time by only having each student explore eight Career Clusters, rather than 16).
3. Ask students to complete the worksheet by searching in CFWV.com for the most uncommon or unusual career in each Career Cluster and then writing it on their sheet.
4. When the students have found the most uncommon career for each Career Cluster ask them to circle that career.
5. Ask students to answer the questions about that career in the second section of the worksheet.

Activity Part II:

1. Tell students that each one of them is going to share what they've learned about the uncommon career that they wrote about.
2. Tell the class that after each student has shared information about their career in 1 minute or less, the class will track which Career Cluster that career is part of. In the end, you will see which Career Cluster has the largest number of uncommon careers.
3. Give the students 5 minutes to write a short sales pitch describing the career including what Career Cluster that the career is from and explaining why it is unusual or uncommon.
4. Before the first student presents, tell the class to track which Career Cluster each career mentioned is a part of. You can also keep track on the board.
5. Ask each student to present their career.
6. When all presentations are finished, tally which Career Cluster had the most careers named.

To Save Time: Ask students to present in small groups or pairs if time constraints prevent each student from sharing with the entire class.

Wrap Up:

- Ask the students to share which careers they found the most uncommon. Which careers would they like to know more about?



UNCOMMON CAREERS WORKSHEET (PART 1)

In CFWV.com, navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then to the **Explore Careers** section. Scroll down to the Career Clusters. Explore each Career Cluster to find the most uncommon career. This could be a career that you've never heard of before, has the most unusual work tasks, or you hear about the most rarely. Then circle the career that you find the most unusual and answer the questions about that career, below the table.

CAREER CLUSTER	UNCOMMON CAREER
1. Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources	
2. Architecture and Construction	
3. Arts, A/V Technology and Communication	
4. Business, Management and Administration	
5. Education and Training	
6. Finance	
7. Government & Public Administration:	
8. Health Science	

QUESTION	YOUR ANSWER
What is the MOST uncommon career on your list?	
Which Career Cluster is it part of?	
In a few sentences, describe what someone in this career does.	
Why is this career uncommon or unusual?	



UNCOMMON CAREERS WORKSHEET (PART 2)

In CFVV.com, navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then to the **Explore Careers** section. Scroll down to the Career Clusters. Explore each Career Cluster to find the most uncommon career. This could be a career that you've never heard of before, has the most unusual work tasks, or you hear about the most rarely. Then circle the career that you find the most unusual and answer the questions about that career, below the table.

CAREER CLUSTER	UNCOMMON CAREER
1. Hospitality and Tourism	
2. Human Services:	
3. Information Technology	
4. Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security	
5. Manufacturing	
6. Marketing	
7. Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics	
8. Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	

QUESTION	YOUR ANSWER
What is the MOST uncommon career on your list?	
Which Career Cluster is it part of?	
In a few sentences, describe what someone in this career does.	
Why is this career uncommon or unusual?	

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS CAREER CLUSTER QUIZ: LESSON 7

Summary:

Students complete a fun quiz competition to review their knowledge of the Career Clusters and their ability to navigate Career Cluster profiles in CFWV.com.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Navigate the Career Clusters in CFWV.com quickly, effectively and with ease.

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of **Career Cluster Quiz** worksheet
- A small prize for the winning group (*optional*)

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will review the skills that they've learned navigating to information within the Career Clusters. The questions can be answered in groups as a "race" to see who can answer the questions the most quickly and accurately. If classroom space allows, you can set this up as a relay race competition.

Preparation:

- Print the **Career Cluster Quiz** worksheet.

Warm up:

- Review with students the concept of Career Clusters and Career Pathways.
- Tell students that in this lesson, they are going to practice using the skills that they developed to research Career Clusters. This will help them to look up information about the Career Clusters in the future as they choose courses that support their favorite Career Cluster, search for career options, look for programs or majors, or explore recreation or volunteering opportunities.

Activity:

- Distribute the **Career Cluster Quiz** worksheet.
- Group the students into pairs or groups of up to four students, based on computer availability and room setup. (*Note: to see the setup for a relay race, look ahead to the extension.*)
- Ask students to choose one person to write the answers and one person to work at the computer. Any remaining group members can coach or provide feedback to the student at the computer.
- Ask students to log into CFWV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then go to **Explore Careers**. Point out the Career Clusters on the Explore Careers page. Students will reference the Career Clusters and the related Career Pathways as they complete their Career Cluster Quiz.
- Tell students that this will be a race. The first group to answer every question correctly, wins! *Optionally, allow students to abbreviate to save time (ex. STEM for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics or Admin for Administrator)*
- Tell students that the student doing the writing can pick up their pencil on the word "go".
- Countdown, "3,2,1, Go!"
- Circulate among the students to provide hints or any assistance needed with the computers.

- When a group finishes, ask them to put the pencil down and all raise their hands. Write the time at the top of the group's worksheet. Allow the other groups to continue working until all groups have finished, marking the time as each group finishes and raises their hands. Remind students that the answers must be complete and accurate, so even if they are not the first to finish, they could still win.
- When all groups are finished, use the answer key to check their work.
- Congratulate the winning group and give them a small prize, if you choose to use a prize.

Alternative Option:

- Arrange the competition as a relay race by grouping the students into groups of approximately 8 students. Ask students to stand in line, in pairs.
- Set computers 10-15 feet away from the groups. The computers should already be logged in to CFWV.com and open to the **Explore Careers** page under the **Career Planning** tab.
- Have at least one pencil or pen at each computer.
- Explain that a pair of students from each team will "race" to the computer. One student will use the computer and one student will read the question from the Career Cluster Quiz and write the answer. The pair can work together to decide how to answer the question. When they have answered the question, they "race" back to their team and hand the quiz to the next pair. This process repeats until a team has finished the quiz. The team who has finished should sit down until all remaining teams have completed the quiz. *Optionally, allow students to abbreviate to save time (ex. STEM for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics or Admin for Administrator)*
- As a group, review the answers. The first team to complete the quiz with the correct answers, wins.

Wrap Up:

- Ask students if they feel confident that they understand Career Clusters and Career Pathways.
- If your school offers courses that support Career Clusters or Career Pathways, this is a good time to tell the students about these classes.
- Ask students if they have any remaining questions.



CAREER CLUSTER QUIZ (ANSWER KEY)

Answer the following questions using the Career Clusters on cfwv.com.

Question	Answer
1. How many careers are in the Information Technology Cluster?	50
2. How many programs are in the Law, Public Safety and Corrections Cluster?	74
3. Which Career Cluster has the smallest number of Career Pathways within it? How many does it have?	Science, technology, engineering, & mathematics (stem) - 2 pathways
4. What are the 3 Career Pathways in the Education and Training Career Cluster?	Administration and administrative support Professional support services Teaching/training
5. In which Career Cluster would you find the career "insurance claims adjuster"?	Finance
6. Which Career Cluster has the highest average salary?	Health science
7. Which Career Cluster includes the Pathway "plant systems"?	Agriculture, Food & Natural resources
8. Which Career Cluster includes the program interior design?	Architecture and construction
9. How many volunteering profiles are in the Cluster "Transportation, Distribution and Logistics"?	1- Volunteer Driver
10. If a student wants to be a cartoon animator, which Career Cluster should they consider?	Arts, Audio-video Technology, and Communications
11. If a student is interested in sales, which Career Cluster is a good fit?	Marketing
12. Which Career Cluster includes the career "Aircraft Assembler"?	Manufacturing
13. Which Career Cluster are teachers a part of?	Education and Training
14. How many volunteering profiles are part of the "Business, Management and Administration" Career Cluster?	3
15. Which Career Cluster should a student interested in becoming a court clerk explore?	Government and Public Administration
16. Which Career Cluster is travel agent a part of?	Hospitality and Tourism



CAREER CLUSTER QUIZ

Answer the following questions using the Career Clusters on cfwv.com.

Question	Answer
1. How many careers are in the Information Technology Cluster?	
2. How many careers are in the Information Technology Cluster?	
3. How many programs are in the Law, Public Safety and Corrections Cluster?	
4. Which Career Cluster has the smallest number of Career Pathways within it? How many does it have?	
5. What are the 3 Career Pathways in the Education and Training Career Cluster?	
6. In which Career Cluster would you find the career "insurance claims adjuster"?	
7. Which Career Cluster has the highest average salary?	
8. Which Career Cluster includes the Pathway "plant systems"?	
9. Which Career Cluster includes the program interior design?	
10. How many volunteering profiles are in the Cluster "Transportation, Distribution and Logistics"?	
11. If a student wants to be a cartoon animator, which Career Cluster should they consider?	
12. If a student is interested in sales, which Career Cluster is a good fit?	
13. Which Career Cluster includes the career "Aircraft Assembler"?	
14. Which Career Cluster are teachers a part of?	
15. How many volunteering profiles are part of the "Business, Management and Administration" Career Cluster?	
16. Which Career Cluster should a student interested in becoming a court clerk explore?	
17. Which Career Cluster is travel agent a part of?	

UNDERSTANDING THE CAREER CLUSTERS YOUR FAVORITE CAREER CLUSTER: LESSON 8

Summary:

Students will review the results of their previously completed assessments and then explore their favorite career cluster with an emphasis on educational levels.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Define different educational levels
- Describe a single Career Cluster in depth
- Identify careers with various education levels and salary ranges from within a cluster.
- Identify their favorite Career Cluster and related program or major and career.

Time Needed: 45 minutes

Resources Needed:

- Access to your online site
- Copy of the **Your Favorite Career Cluster** worksheet

Prerequisite: Students should have completed the Career Cluster Survey and the Career Cluster Map in CFVV prior to completing this lesson.

Computer Use: Yes

Description:

In this lesson, students will review the concept of Career Clusters and the results of their Career Cluster Survey. Students will then review the Career Cluster Map and adjust their rankings of the career clusters, as needed. Students will identify their current favorite Career Cluster and complete the **Your Favorite Career Cluster** worksheet to describe the Career Cluster in depth.

Preparation:

1. Print the **Your Favorite Career Cluster** worksheet
2. Write the following education levels on your board.
 - Certificate/Diploma: A short-term course focused on a specific topic. Sometimes these courses can be completed after high school, like a certification as a Realtor. Sometimes these courses supplement a higher-level degree
 - Associate Degree
 - Bachelor's Degree
 - Master's Degree
 - Graduate Certificate
 - Doctoral Degree

Warm up:

3. Tell students that today they will be researching their favorite Career Cluster. They will explore what their career options could be with various education levels or if they join the military. They will also look at the range of salaries within the Career Cluster.
4. Tell the students that before they begin, they should understand the various education levels that they see within each Career Cluster under **Programs and Majors**.
5. Indicate each of the following education levels that you have written on your board. Ask the students to offer their own definitions for each education level to assess their current understanding. Once students have provided feedback, provide the actual definition. These definitions can be found on CFVV.com on any **Program Description**.

- **Certificate/Diploma:** A short-term course focused on a specific topic. Sometimes these courses can be completed after high school. Sometimes these courses supplement a higher-level degree. Remind students to read *carefully* to be sure they understand the total amount of education needed.
 - **Associate Degree:** Typically, a two-year program most commonly found at community colleges.
 - **Bachelor's Degree:** A three-to-four-year program at a four-year college or university.
 - **Master's Degree:** Usually a one to two-year program requiring a bachelors degree for entry.
 - **Graduate Certificate:** A short-term narrowly focused program requiring a bachelors or master's degree for entry.
 - **Doctoral Degree:** A highly specialized degree requiring either a Bachelor or Master's degree for entry.
6. Once you are confident that students understand the various levels of education, move on to the activity.

Activity Part I:

1. Distribute the **Your Favorite Career Cluster** worksheet.
2. Ask students to log into CFVV.com and navigate to the **Career Planning** tab and then click **Learn About Yourself**. Next, students click the **Career Cluster Survey** to review their previously completed results.
3. Ask students to review their results, paying special attention to their top Career Clusters. Ask students to identify their favorite Career Cluster and write it on the **Your Favorite Career Cluster** worksheet. If needed, give students a few minutes to review their top few Career Cluster choices.
4. Next, ask students to click the **Your Portfolio** tab and navigate to the **School-to-College-to-Work** activities. They are at the top of the Portfolio home page for middle school students and at the bottom for high school students.
5. Ask students to click on **School-to-College-to-Work** and then click the **Career Clusters Map**. Ask students to review their previous star rankings near the upper left corner of the activity and adjust the rankings if their preferences have changed since the activity was completed. Remind them that there are no right or wrong choices.
6. Ask students to compare their top ranked Career Cluster on the **Career Cluster Map** with their top ranked Career Cluster from the **Career Cluster Survey**. If they need to change their favorite Career Cluster, they can erase it and put in a new top Career Cluster Choice.
7. When students are confident that they have identified their favorite Career Cluster and written it at the top of the **Your Favorite Career Cluster Worksheet**, move on to Activity Part II.

Activity Part II:

1. Ask students to click the Career Planning tab in CFVV.com and then click Explore Careers. Then ask students to scroll down the page to the career clusters and then click the name of their favorite Career Cluster. They will use the information in this section to complete the **Your Favorite Career Clusters** worksheet.
2. When students have completed their worksheet, ask them to partner with another student to share why they chose their favorite Career Cluster.

Wrap Up:

1. Give the class an opportunity to ask questions.
2. Let the class know that they can change their favorite Career Cluster choice at any time.
3. Explain to the class what opportunities (like extra-curricular activities, courses, or work based learning) might be available in your district to support the various Career Clusters.



YOUR FAVORITE CAREER CLUSTER

Answer each of the questions below about your favorite Career Cluster. Use the information on CFWV.com under the Career Planning tab in the Explore Careers section.

QUESTIONS	YOUR ANSWERS
What is your favorite Career Cluster?	
Why is this Career Cluster your top choice?	
What is one program or major that interests you that requires a Certificate/Diploma	
What is one program or major that interests you that requires an associate degree?	
What is one program or major that interests you that requires a bachelor's degree?	
What is one program or major that interests you in that requires a master's or doctoral degree?	
Which program or major that you listed interests you the most?	
How long will it take you to complete this program or major?	
Within the program or major profile, you will find a list of related careers. Which career interests you the most? Why?	
What are some ways that you can start preparing to complete a program or start a career in this Career Cluster?	