Lesson overview

Jobs and employers

7 Recommended: **7th grade**

Length: **80 minutes**

About this lesson

To understand the role networking plays within career industries, students will explore job boards, professional social networks, and industry approved accrediting associations, and reflect on the ways these communities can help lead to career opportunities.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- explore ways to find employment (e.g. job boards, networking, etc.)
- reflect on the advantages and disadvantages to various work search strategies
- research potential employers and career networks in their community.

Driving question

What types of job search strategies will help me land a job?

Future-ready skills

Research skills | Analyzing | Networking

Lesson breakdown

5 minutes

Activity 1: Professional networks mindmap

Provide a collaborative space for students to share a range of professional connections, possibly linked to careers they are interested in. To help with brainstorming, provide probing questions (for example, where do professionals in this career: meet-up? look for job opportunities? upgrade their skills? receive accreditation?). Keep this mindmap to build upon in the exit activity.

30 minutes

Activity 2: Xello Lesson: Jobs and employers

In this activity, students will complete the Xello lesson titled **Jobs and employers** to better understand job search strategies and research potential employers in their community.

40 minutes

Activity 3: Professional networks

In this activity, students will research professional organization networks or accrediting associations for three careers of interest and explain how the services they provide support professionals in this industry.

5 minutes

Exit Activity: Professional connections mindmap

Building upon the warm-up activity, have students add the networks they explored in Activity 2 to the mindmap. Then, ask them to draw lines between networks, identifying how they're related (for example, same career field, regulate professional standards, provide career-related training).

Xello entry point

Students will need to make sure they have saved 3 careers before starting this lesson. It's also recommended that students complete **Matchmaker** assessment (phase 1) and **Explore career matches** lesson.

Vocabulary

- Job board
- Networking
- Responsibilities
- Requirements
- Relevant skills
- Professional standards
- Professional accreditation
- Professional designation

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Activity 2: Xello Lesson: Jobs and employers

7 Recommended: **7th grade**

Length: **30 minutes**

About this activity

In Activity 1, students were provided with a collaborative space to share a range of professional connections, possibly linked to careers they are interested in.

This activity, which includes completing the **Jobs and employers** lesson in Xello, builds on the previous activity to help students better understand job search strategies and research potential employers in their community.

Inquiry prompts

- What do you need when you're looking for a job?
- How do people find jobs?
- What qualities do you think employers look for in a potential employee?
- Do you think it's more important to work in a job you like or for an employer you like?
- What's the hardest part about finding a job?
- What does networking mean? How can it help you find a job?
- As a potential employee, what are you looking for in an employer?

Before you begin

Before diving in with your students:

1. Create a copy or download the Jobs and employers slide presentation (also available in Spanish) to use as a helpful teaching aid before and after the Xello lesson.
2. Review the slides (including the speaker notes section) for discussion strategies and prompts.
3. Update slide 5 of the presentation with your students' Xello sign in format. If you don't know your students' Xello login format check out Sign in to Xello for support.

Teaching strategies

Use the following strategies to set your students up for success:

1. Before students start the Xello lesson, engage them in a classroom discussion using a few of the inquiry prompts from the **Warm up** activity slide of the Jobs and employers slide presentation (also available in Spanish), or choose your own.
2. Help your students log in to their Xello account. Project your screen as you model how to navigate to the lesson using your demo student account. From the student dashboard, click on a lesson to get started. If the lesson you want isn't visible, access it by selecting **View all lessons** below the lesson shown or **View lessons** on the left of your screen.
3. Students finished early? Encourage your students to review the mindmap from Activity 1 to prepare for the next activity.

Materials required

- Computers or tablets with internet access
- Whiteboard/projector
- Jobs and employers slide presentation (also available in Spanish)

Prerequisites

- Save 3 careers

Artifacts

Students will complete the Xello lesson: **Jobs and employers**.

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Activity 2: Xello Lesson: Jobs and employers

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Length: **30 minutes**

4. Students can also explore their dashboard feed where they'll find new content about their updated saved careers.
5. Once all students have completed the Xello lesson, return to the Jobs and employers slide presentation (also available in Spanish) to have them revisit their answers to the inquiry prompts you posed at the beginning of class.
6. **Classroom discussion strategy: Round robin:** Lead a round robin style discussion in which each person shares their answer to the following inquiry prompt: Do you think it's more important to work in a job you like or for an employer you like?

OPTIONAL: Document the responses. What observations can be drawn about them? What conclusions can be made about what's important to work?

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Activity 3: Professional networks

7 Recommended: **7th grade**

Length: **95 minutes**

Inquiry prompts

- What are professional networks and how do they support people within an industry?

Teaching strategies

In this activity, students will research professional organization networks or accrediting associations for three careers of interest and explain how the services they provide support professionals in this industry.

1. Provide the instructions (also available in Spanish) on the next page to your students.

Materials required

- Student instructions (also available in Spanish)
- Computers or tablets with internet access

Artifacts

Students will add links to professional networks or accreditation organizations in the **Explore this career: helpful articles** section of the career profile, and reflect on how the professional network provides support for professionals in the industry.

Professional networks

Student instructions

How do professionals share knowledge, determine standard of practice, and develop their skills within an industry? Developing a professional network will not only help you with job searches, but will help you achieve career goals, learn more about your field, or introduce you to another field you'd like to work in. Complete the following for three saved careers:

1. At the top of the profile, choose an emoji to indicate how you feel about this career.
2. Research professional organization networks or accrediting associations online. Select one to add to the **Explore this Career: Helpful articles** section of the career profile.
3. Explain why this professional network is an important organization and how it provides support for professionals in the industry.

Redes profesionales

Instrucciones para estudiantes

¿De qué manera los profesionales comparten conocimientos, determinan estándares de prácticas y desarrollan sus aptitudes dentro de un sector? Crear una red profesional no solo te servirá para buscar trabajo, sino también te permitirá alcanzar metas profesionales, aprender más sobre tu área o conocer otra en la que te gustaría trabajar. Completa lo siguiente para tres profesiones guardadas:

1. En la parte superior del perfil, elige un emoji para indicar las sensaciones que esta profesión te genera.
2. Investiga sobre redes de organizaciones profesionales o asociaciones de acreditación en línea. Selecciona una para agregarla a la sección **Explorar esta profesión: Artículos útiles** del perfil de profesiones. Verifica que la red contemple a profesionales canadienses y sea una organización con reputación.
3. Explica la razón por la que esta red profesional es una organización importante y la forma en que brinda respaldo a profesionales del sector.