

Grade 9-12: INTRODUCING ENVIRONMENT SECTOR CAREERS

Students are introduced to environment sector careers in relation to the ten career areas defined by the National Occupational Classification (NOC) system.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Related Outcomes

This lesson will contribute to the student's ability to

- apply labour market information as provided in the NOC system to careers of interest;
- understand the general career areas as set out by the NOC system and how the areas can be applied to environment sector jobs and careers.

Related Coursework

This lesson works well in classes studying

- careers related to science, mathematics, TEK, environmental science and studies and Aboriginal culture;
- the National Occupational Classification system;
- Aboriginal Studies.

PREPARATION

Learning Objectives

During this lesson, students will

- familiarize themselves with environment sector jobs and industries through brainstorming and discussion;
- work in small groups to develop collage posters presenting environment sector jobs according to the National Occupational Classification system;
- discuss the importance of having Aboriginal environmental practitioners.

Total Time 60 minutes

Material Required

- A variety of newspapers, magazines, flyers, catalogues, and brochures depicting people at work and in the environment and appropriate for creating posters
- Glue, scissors and markers
- NOC Occupational Units
- List of Aboriginal EnviroCareer occupations (provided)
- Poster paper
- Access to the Aboriginal EnviroCareers website/CD-ROM, and *Student Guide*

DELIVERY



TIME

15 minutes



PROCESS

1. **Introduction: Introducing Careers in the Environment Sector and the NOC System** (*Group Interaction*)
 - 1.1 Divide the class into groups (6 students per group).
 - 1.2 Instruct the groups: "In five minutes, brainstorm as many jobs related to the environment sector as possible."
 - 1.3 Allow groups to share their lists with the large group.



TEACHER'S NOTES

- 1.6 The NOC system includes
 - Management
 - Business, Finance and Administration
 - Natural and Applied Sciences
 - Health
 - Social Science, Education, Government Service and Religion
 - Art, Culture, Recreation and Sport
 - Sales & Service



30 minutes

- 1.4 Discuss the potential benefits of working in the environment sector
 - a. Many jobs are in rural and remote areas allowing you to stay in your community.
 - b. Increasing demand for environmental practitioners who are familiar with the needs of Aboriginal communities and knowledgeable about TEK.
 - c. Jobs enable you to combine traditional ecological knowledge and cultural values with a career.
- 1.5 Project the list of EnviroCareers supplied with this lesson plan in a location visible to the class. Explain to the class that the jobs listed have been identified as key to Aboriginal communities. Review the list as a group, highlighting the jobs students had identified during the brainstorming.
- 1.6 Introduce the National Occupational Classification (NOC) system: “The NOC is a system used to describe types of jobs in Canada. The NOC groups jobs into ten fields or occupational units.” List the ten areas on the board or in a location where students will be able to see them.

2. **Main Activity: Categorizing Environment Sector Jobs Using the NOC System** (*Group Creative Activity*)

- 2.1 Describe: “In your groups, find and cut out pictures of people engaged in as many environmental occupations from the EnviroCareers list as you can. Place each of the images into one of the ten NOC areas then create a single poster or several posters showing the many environmental occupations available in each NOC area. Groups will present their posters to the class 30 minutes from now.”
- 2.2 Encourage students to refer to the EnviroCareers section of the Aboriginal EnviroCareers website/CD-ROM if they need more information about the occupations.

- Trades, Transport & Equipment Operators
- Occupations Unique to Primary Industry
- Occupations Unique to Processing, Manufacturing & Utilities

For more information on the NOC system, see the Human Resources Canada website: www.23.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca

- 2.1 If possible, show students an NOC poster. Suggest they place pictures around the perimeter of the poster. They could also write the NOC heading at the top and the list of environmental occupations down the middle of the poster. They could then draw lines between the list of occupations and the pictures. Students may require more than one sheet of poster paper.

To order an NOC poster, call Canadian Government Publishing at 1-800-635-7943 or go to their website: publications.gc.ca



15 minutes



3. **Closure and Evaluation: Understanding Jobs in the Environment Sector** (*Discussion*)

- 3.1 Ask each group to present their posters to the large group.
- 3.2 Discuss the following
- “Which occupations were the most difficult to categorize? Why?”
 - “What did you learn about the environment sector as a potential career direction?”
 - “Why do you think it’s important to have Aboriginal environmental practitioners?”
- 3.3 Display the completed posters in the classroom.



Evaluation Considerations:

Did students

- differentiate between the 10 NOC units accurately;
- group environmental careers appropriately;
- refer to the EnviroCareers section of the website/CD-ROM for further information to assist their decision making?



SUGGESTIONS FOR ADAPTATION

- To follow up, you could have students read at least three profiles for environmental occupations on the Aboriginal EnviroCareers website not included on their posters, and determine which NOC area the occupations best fit. Discuss students’ findings in a subsequent class.
- The next lesson is related to this lesson and could be used to continue exploring environment sector jobs.



ENVIRO CAREERS

Hydrogeologist

Marine Biologist

Water Treatment Plant Operator

Fisheries Technologist

Climate Change Specialist

Meteorologist

Remote Sensing Technologist

Geologist

Remediation Scientist

Land Use Planner

GIS Analyst

Survey Technician

Forester

Botanist

Agricultural Technician

Forest Fire Fighter

Tree Planter

Conservation Biologist

Conservation Officer

Wildlife Technician

Waste Management Director

Environmental Health Officer

Pollution Control Technologist

Recycled Materials Handler

University Professor

High School Science Teacher

Environmental Trainer

Ecotourism Guide

Science Camp Coordinator

Environmental Policy Analyst

Environmental Lawyer

Aboriginal Liaison

Environmental Scientist

Traditional Ecological Knowledge Advisor

Environmental Engineer

Clean Energy Researcher

Green Architect

Environmental Coordinator

Environmental Monitor