

# Career Exploration

## *Physical Science and Technology*

This activity will walk you through the process of examining different careers. While you do not need to make any final decisions at your age, it is always a good idea to keep your options open. Knowing what types of jobs you're interested in will help you make good decisions in high school that will allow you to narrow in on a particular career type as you get older.

You will document your work in a Microsoft Word document. Include all **information requested in bold**.

### *Step I: Budget*

Using the following website, <http://monthlyexpensecalculator.com/>, come up with an approximate estimate of your salary needs. The numbers provided are rough averages; you should make adjustments that you think will fit your lifestyle.

- **Question: What is your target yearly salary?**

### *Step II: Career descriptions*

Using the following website, <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>, examine careers that you think fit your interests and income needs.

For at LEAST FIVE DIFFERENT CAREERS, answer the following **questions**:

- **What is the name of the career you are investigating?**
- **In a few sentences, describe the type of work you would do.**
- **How much money can you expect to make each year?**
- **What sort of educational requirements (high school and beyond) are required for this career?**

### *Step III: Analysis*

Go back to your budget. Based on the expected salary of the career you found most interesting, make revisions (down or up!) to various budget categories.

Answer the following **questions**:

- **Did your favorite career provide a large enough salary to support your initial budget? If not, which budget categories did you have to reduce?**
- **How did reading about the different careers help you think about what you will need to do in school (high school and after)? What classes do you suppose you would need to take in order to maximize your chances at success in your favorite career?**