

Career Connections

Career Crossword

CAREER CONNECTIONS

Simple instructional strategies that incorporate the career profile videos in meaningful, effective, and practical ways.

BIG IDEA

Vocabulary development is important for all areas of communication, including speaking, listening, reading, and writing. This activity will build students' vocabulary by transforming the career profile video into an active learning opportunity. After listening for words associated with the career, students will demonstrate their understanding of the words' meaning by creating a career-centered crossword puzzle.

MATERIALS

- Career profile video
- Blank lined paper
- Writing utensil
- Online crossword puzzle generator, such as puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/criss-cross

STEPS

1. Distribute one piece of blank paper to each student and instruct students to take out their writing utensils.
2. Explain that, as they watch the career profile video, the students should jot down key vocabulary. The vocabulary they select may be words specific to the career or its industry, words used to describe the career, or skills needed to succeed in the career. Challenge students to record at least 10 words.
3. When the video is over, encourage students to take a moment to define as many of the vocabulary words as they can. (They may not be able to define all of the words, and that's OK.)
4. Play the video one more time, this time pausing every 20–30 seconds. As they watch, instruct students to listen closely for clues that could help them define words for which they still need definitions.
5. Instruct those students who are still missing definitions after seeing the video twice to confer with their peers and/or use the internet to define the word.
6. Tell the students that they will be creating crossword puzzles with their career vocabulary. Explain the activity by providing the following information:
 - Students may select whether they will create the crossword puzzle on their own or use a device to access an online crossword puzzle generator.

- The crossword puzzle's title should be the name of the career associated with the vocabulary words.
- The clues might be a word's definition or a hint based on its definition.
- Each puzzle must be accompanied by an answer key.

SUM IT UP

This strategy is a great way for students to build their vocabulary and strengthen their understanding of the career and broader industry.

MORE IDEAS

1. Students can pair up with others who watched the same video and compare, contrast, and explain the vocabulary they selected.
2. Keep a classroom "library" of the crossword puzzles for students to grab and complete when they watch a corresponding video.