

Career Connections

Same and Different

CAREER CONNECTIONS

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

BIG IDEA

Comparing and contrasting is an easy way to integrate higher-order thinking skills into classroom activities. The process of comparing and contrasting can help improve students' comprehension by highlighting key details and reducing confusion between similar subjects. This activity will first focus on one career at a time so students are able to identify important details before they analyze two careers for their similarities and differences.

MATERIALS

- Career profile videos (two)
- Lined paper
- Writing utensil

STEPS

1. Preview both career profile videos and select two or three appropriate points at which to pause for students to jot notes.
2. Distribute a piece of lined paper to each student and instruct the students to fold their paper into two columns.
3. Introduce the first career profile video and instruct students to title the first column with the name of the career featured in the video.
4. Write the following categories on the board and encourage students to listen for details related to these three categories as they watch:
 - Career Responsibilities
 - Skills Needed
 - Work Environment
5. Show the first career profile video. As students watch the video, do not have them take notes. If they look down to take notes, they will be missing content. Assure them that you will pause the video to allow them to make notes related to the three categories.

6. Pause the video at the predetermined points to allow students time to add information to their notes.
7. Introduce the second career profile video and instruct students to title the second column with the featured career name.
8. Show the second video and repeat steps five and six.
9. Encourage students to find partners and use their notes to discuss the similarities and differences between the two careers. Challenge students to identify both obvious and more subtle similarities and differences.
10. Regroup as a class and encourage students to share the most important ways that these careers are the same and different.

SUM IT UP

This strategy is a great way for students to compare and contrast careers within and across industries.

MORE IDEAS

1. Students can create a Venn diagram, T-chart, or other visual representation of the differences and similarities they identify.
2. Students can continue to compare and contrast careers as they watch more career profile videos, ultimately determining if there are any skills or responsibilities that most careers seem to share.