

# Exploring Career Factors



Recommended  
9th Grade



Length  
75 Minutes

## About This Lesson

To identify factors that may influence their career decisions, students will identify factors that are important to them, understand and prioritize 6 common factors when exploring career options, and rank important factors for 3 saved careers.

## Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- investigate important factors: work/life balance, money, making a difference, education, interests, and career growth
- assess which core factors are important to them when making a career decision
- prioritize core factors that influence their career decisions
- rank important factors for 3 saved careers

## Driving Question

What factors may influence my career decisions?

## Future-Ready Skills

Respecting Differences

Understanding Others' Perspectives

Prioritizing

Evaluating

## Lesson Breakdown

15  
minutes

### Activity 1 - Factors for Saving a Career

Guide students to their **My Saved Options** in Xello to review 3 career profiles and identify how they feel about the career by choosing an emoji at the top of the profile. Within each career profile have them identify factors that influenced their decision by recording them under the **Explore This Career: Likes and Dislikes** card. *What do you like about this career that influenced you to save it?* Then, have students share their factors with a partner. *When comparing factors, how are they similar or different? Do you agree or disagree with any of your partner's factors?*

35  
minutes

### Activity 2 - Xello Lesson: Exploring Career Factors

Direct students to complete the Xello Lesson titled **Exploring Career Factors** to help them understand and prioritize 6 common factors when exploring career options.

30  
minutes

### Activity 3 - Asking the Important Questions

In this activity, students will dig deeper on 3 careers they have saved to make sure they're exploring careers that align with their top factors. They will record their findings in the **Explore This Career** section of each career profile.

## Xello Entry Point

Students need to save 3 careers before starting this lesson. It's also recommended they've completed **Matchmaker** assessment and Xello's lesson **Explore Career Matches**.

## Vocabulary

- Career factors
- Career demand
- Education/training
- Career field
- Working conditions
- Earnings/money
- Growth
- Interests
- Making a difference
- Work/Life balance

## Activity 3 - Asking the Important Questions



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Length  
30 Minutes

### Inquiry Prompts

- How well do my saved careers rank on important factors?

### Teaching Strategies

In this activity, students will dig deeper on 3 careers they have saved to make sure they're exploring careers that align with their top factors. They will record their findings in the **Explore This Career** section of each career profile.

- 1 Provide the [instructions](#) on the next page to your students.

### Materials Required

- [Student Instructions](#)
- Computer or tablet with internet access

### Artifacts

For 3 saved careers, students will add their list of important questions to the **My Notes** card under the **Explore This Career** section and complete the **Important Factors** card.

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## Asking the Important Questions

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### Student Instructions

- 1 In the Xello lesson titled **Exploring Career Factors** you identified a list of important questions you'd ask to make sure that any career you're exploring aligns with your top factors. From your Xello dashboard re-open this lesson to find this list of questions (under section 4), select and copy the whole list, and then navigate to one of your saved careers.
- 2 In the **My Notes** card under **Explore This Career** paste your list of questions to guide your investigation into 6 common factors that influence career decisions.
- 3 Work through your list of questions one by one, reviewing the career profile to help you determine how well the career ranks on each factor.
- 4 In the **Important Factors** card under **Explore This Career** record a star ranking for each factor based on your review of the career profile using your list of questions from the Xello lesson.
- 5 Rank the **Important Factors** for 2 more saved careers. Make sure to copy and paste your list of questions into the **My Notes** card for these careers as well.
- 6 OPTIONAL: After ranking the **Important Factors** for 3 saved careers determine which career came out on top. In the **My Notes** card of this career, add a written reflection for 3 of your important questions.