**8th Grade Career Project**  
Step-by-Step Description

**Step 1:** Choose a career that interests you. I would suggest that you choose the one that most appeals to you from your list on the Career Cruising website.

This is an informative project that uses your research skills. It is recommended that you take notes in Microsoft Word under five separate headings. If you use sheets of paper, use a separate sheet for each of these categories to ensure that you have space for each section:

1. What the Career is (Job Description)
2. Education/Training Requirements
3. Opportunities for Employment/Advancement
4. Salary/Earnings/Benefits
5. Description of “A Typical day in the life of a person in my career choice”
6. Bibliography: A listing of all sources must be submitted in proper M.L.A. format. A format sheet will be handed out.

**DEADLINES**

November 22: Review assignment outline and expectations

**Recommendation:** You may want to focus one day of research on one single area of your paper. For example, once you have chosen your career, spend your first day of research writing down a detailed description of the career ONLY. Read about the job, look at multiple sites that address the profession, the stress, levels, and job satisfaction. When descriptions differ, go with the one that comes from the most reliable resource. For example, if you choose hair stylist as your career, and you are able to interview a hair stylist in person, use his/her description of his/her typical day instead of only the ones you read on the internet.

**Step 2:** Take your notes carefully and thoroughly. Use your own words when taking notes. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE! Ensure that you record all sites and resources that you might use in the completion of this assignment.

**Step 3:** Examine your information and try to put the facts into a logical order. You will want to follow this order on in your final product.

**Step 4:** Word process your rough draft and save it! Each of the five sections of your paper must be on separate sheets. You will need to use 12 as your font size so that your information can be read easily. Be careful not to repeat facts when you are writing your five sections. Each section should contain different and precise information. (You will be graded on your notes, final written work, and bibliography.)

**Step 6:** Find pictures, graphs, or diagrams that illustrate your career and make it look appealing to others. You should have at least two pictures for each section, and will select 1 final one for each section.

If you find that you cannot find enough information on your career, you will want to change your career. See me for ideas if you need to. Good luck and have fun!
CAREER RESEARCH

Essential Question: What requirements (educational and personal) do I need to succeed at reaching my career goal?

Some guide questions are provided below to help your research. Your notes MUST be divided into these five sections:

1. What the career is:
   This includes a description of the career itself, skills or tasks that one performs in this career, and any additional information that you feel is relevant to this area.

2. The educational/training requirements:
   What level of schooling is necessary?
   Are there any special tests or exams? (Examples: truck drivers need to have special driver’s licenses)
   Are there any physical or personal requirements? (Examples: the ability to lift heavy loads; the ability to solve complex math equations)
   Are there certain schools that offer better educational opportunities in this field than others?

3. Opportunities for Advancement (Examples: Nurse to nurse trainer; pet store cashier to pet store manager)
   What are the benefits of advancements
   What are the potential costs (personal as opposed to financial)

4. Salary/Earnings/Benefits: (include vacation time, medical benefits, retirement plans, flexible hours, annual pay increases…)

5. A Typical Day in the Life of …": A description or list of tasks that one would perform in a typical day.

VISUAL PRESENTATION

A booklet style brochure outlining:

1. Titles in Attractive, readable fonts for each section
2. Description of Career
3. Educational/Training requirements
4. Opportunities within the career
5. Salary/Earnings/Benefits
6. A Typical day in the life of…
Career Project Online Resources

Use the following online resources to research your chosen career:


   Click on the link to “What Career is Right for Me?” in the left hand column. Click on “Dream It. Do It” in the middle of the page. You may take the Dream Career Quiz to indicate your career personality, or skip to the bottom of the page and click on career profiles to read career descriptions. You will need much more information from the following three online databases to complete your project.


   Sources of Additional Information


   From the home page, you can choose to search the “Career Database” for a career of your choice. You may either **SEARCH** by entering the search term, such as “fashion design” or “bicycle repair” or “pediatrician”, or you may **BROWSE** the list of 902 careers. Once you have chosen your career to research, myplan.com gives you a job description, job requirements, significant points and salary information. These are four of the five requirements for your project! You will enjoy using the “Video Library” to watch a 1-2 minute video of your career choice. You must choose “Quicktime” and “High Bandwidth” to view the videos on our computers.

4. **Career Database** - [www.careerdatabase.net](http://www.careerdatabase.net)

   This web resource links you to five or six related resources once you have chosen your career from the alphabetical listing of 650 careers. For the careers that are included here, you may link to sites such as XAP, Career Planner. This will not be your primary site for information, but will give you fun facts to make your career research more interesting and insightful.
8th Grade Career Research Grading Rubric

*Congratulations* Your enthusiasm for exploring your career choices will surely help you succeed at this task! This rubric will help you remember to include all necessary pieces of information and to present it in an attractive format. Remember that you will be presenting your project to other students so create a professional looking poster board.

**Essential Questions:** What requirements (educational and personal) do I need to succeed at reaching my career goal?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Earned</th>
<th>Points Possible</th>
<th>Points Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I have used reliable information resources</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I have created a separate bibliography page</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>__________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Writing Quality**

3. I have used proper sentence construction, including punctuation | 5 | __________ |
4. I have checked my grammar and spelling | 5 | __________ |
5. My writing is original (not copied and pasted) | 10 | __________ |

**Booklet/Presentation Design**

6. I have presented my information in an organized manner | 10 | __________ |
7. I have created an attractive presentation | 5 | __________ |
8. I have met the deadlines for each section of my project | 5 | __________ |

**Content**

9. I have included all of the required pieces of information:
   a. Description | 10 | __________ |
   b. Educational/Training Requirements | 10 | __________ |
   c. Opportunities | 10 | __________ |
   d. Salary and Benefits | 10 | __________ |
   e. A Typical Day in the Life of your career | 10 | __________ |

Total Points 100 | __________ |