Learning About Careers / Information Technology Careers

Essential Question:

- Where can I learn about careers?
- What are the basic qualifications for Information Technology jobs?
- How important is certification?
- What types of courses or degrees would benefit individuals who desire to work in the programming, gaming, and software development fields?

Learning Objectives
- **Identify** factors to consider when choosing a career
- **Describe** sources for obtaining career information
- **Discover** what courses, degrees, and certifications would benefit you and equip you for the profession
- **Explain** the outlook for programming, gaming, and software development fields

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Web resources are provided below to assist in locating information regarding careers in gaming and programming/software development, and a career of your choice.   If these links do not work, try others of your choice

Virtual Job Shadow

    https://www.virtualjobshadow.com

Yahoo Careers

    http://careers.yahoo.com

The Wall Street Journal: Career Journal

    www.careerjournal.com

Occupational Outlook Handbook

    https://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Computer Science Career Guide

    http://www.khake.com/page17.html

Computer Jobs

    http://www.computerjobs.com/us/en/IT-Jobs/

Association of Information Technology Professionals

    http://www.aitp.org/

Careers in Games

    http://ygd.bafta.org/careers-in-games

Creative Skills Set

    http://creativeskillset.org/who_we_help/young_creative_talent

The best material on careers is provided by the Department of Labor. The following references exist as publications and helpful references are available online too.

1. The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* – updated every two years. It is designed to help with decisions about your future work. The *Handbook* describes what workers do on the job, the working conditions,

and the training and education required. It also includes earnings, information and expected job prospects. **https://www.bls.gov/ooh/**

2. The Occupational Information Network, called the O*NET, is an excellent online resource from the Department of Labor. O*NET can be used to explore careers, related job skills, and trends. It also provides tools for assessing a person's abilities and interests. O*NETS's job-classification system links to other labor market information. Consequently, it is the most complete occupational resource available. **www.onetonline.org**

3. The Department of Labor offers career information for youth and adults through its Education and Training Administration. The site also links with other helpful sources of career information. **www.dol.gov**

Career Resource Center (**www.careers.org**)

Virtual Job Shadow – use your school's student account login information to activate this website. https://www.virtualjobshadow.com

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Assignment – Gaming Industry – Start researching careers in the gaming industry for design, creation, and career options. Answer questions below using the chart.

Web resources provided will assist in completing assignments. If web links do not work or provide information needed, use other web resources to assist in completing the assignment.

Question	Answer
Identify at least **4 career paths** in the game industry and at least **one example** of what you might do.	
Identify the **working conditions** in the gaming industry? (minimum 2)	
Identify the beginning and experienced **earnings** of a game	

programmer or designer? *Are they paid by the hour or project?*	
Do people work in teams or individually?	
How long does it take to create a video game?	
What programming language is often used to create video games?	
Identify a book that might be helpful in learning to program games.	
Identify at least 3 colleges (and locations) that offer programs in gaming. Identify the majors or areas of study available at each.	
Identify a one popular gaming magazine.	
Identify a software program that would be used to create 3D animations	