Note for BizWorld.org Educators: We created this extension activity for Financial Literacy Month to teach students that in addition to exploring their entrepreneurial skills, they can pursue a career path in a field they are passionate about. This lesson plan has been modified for both elementary and middle school students with accompanying worksheets.

**OBJECTIVE:**
Students will research various career fields and explore various requirements for each.

**ASSESSMENT:** Students will be able to
- describe the relationship between career paths and earning income
- explain the various types of education/training required for several careers
- identify current activities that can help build skills needed for careers they are interested in for the future

**VOCABULARY:**
1. Job
2. Career
3. Salary
4. Income
5. Degree
6. Licenses
7. Certifications

**MATERIALS:**
- BizWorld.org Career Exploration Worksheet for your grade level

**RESOURCES:**
- Bureau of Labor Statistics

**ACTIVITIES:**
- **Introduction** - The primary way that people earn income is through their jobs.
- **Jobs vs. Careers** - A job allows you to make money, but careers allow you to pursue more long-term goals and develop your skills in a field of your choice.
- **Brainstorm** - As a class, create a diverse list of popular career fields. Group similar jobs together in same career field.
- **Teach:** Many careers require training and/or specific degrees, licenses, or certifications in order to get a job in that career field
  (Examples of each - registered nurses, CPA, lawyer, teacher, business owner)
- **Independent/Partner Research** - Students choose 3-5 careers of interest and research - use worksheets below as guideline and website above as resource.

**EXTENSION:**
- Students map out their personal strengths and interests.
- Based on these qualities, pick one career of particular interest and further research the increase in earning potential depending on additional education degrees and training.
- Students discuss and evaluate investment in further education and training.
**BizWorld.org Career Exploration Worksheet (Grades 3-5)**

**Name of Career:**

**Describe this career using sentences and/or a picture:**

**What are some skills required for this career? What are some important characteristics for people in this career to have?**

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**What education and training is needed for this career?**

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**What is the average salary for someone in this career field?:**

1. National average: ________________________________
2. Local average: ________________________________

**How do additional degrees or qualifications affect salaries in this field?**

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

After researching this career, I think it is a **good / bad / unsure** (circle one) fit for me because ____________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Name:____________________ Date:_____________

BizWorld.org Career Exploration Worksheet (Grades 6-8)

Name of career: ________________________________________________________________
Description & Responsibilities: ____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

What are some skills required for this career? What are some important characteristics for people in this career to have?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

What degrees, licenses, or certifications are required for this career?
____________________________________________________________________________

What is the average salary for someone in this career field?:
1. National average: ________________ 2. Local average: ________________
Source for salary information: _________________________________________________
How do additional degrees or qualifications impact salaries in this field?
____________________________________________________________________________

What are some activities or extracurriculars that you are involved with or interested in that might help build skills needed for this career?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Reflect: Are you interested in pursuing this career? Why or why not?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________