



What does a Career
in the electricity sector
mean for your students?

ENERGIZE YOUR FUTURE



bright**future**sBC

TEACHERS' LESSON PLAN



Energize your Future

You will require two **40 - 50** minute classes to entirely complete the two lessons. The lessons are presented in four separate parts. Each part can also stand alone and be treated as an individual activity.

At the end of the following two lessons students will have:

- Examined the various careers available in the electricity sector in BC
- Learned in more detail what the job duties and prerequisites are for each of these careers in companies such as BC Hydro, FortisBC and Columbia Power
- Practised their resume writing skills
- Practised their interview skills
- Practised their teamwork skills

Lesson 1 of 2

Part 1

Time: 15 minutes

Icebreaker: Find Your Match

Trades

- Power Line Technician ...
- Electrician ...
- Power System Operator ...
- Sustainable Future Facilitator ...
- Intelligent Energy Specialist ...
- Engineer ...
- Project Manager ...
- Operations Manager ...

Definitions

- ... in charge of supervising projects from start to finish, overseeing the various stages of design and execution all the way to completion.
- ... constructs, repairs and maintains transmission and distribution lines on poles, towers and structures.
- ... controls the transmission and distribution of electrical power, monitoring and switching portions of the power grid and communicating with field crews.
- ... responsible for laying out, assembling, repairing, maintaining, connecting and testing electrical fixtures, apparatus, control equipment and wiring.
- ... in charge of power generation, distribution, transmission or field operations, including setting targets, budgets and work procedures.
- ... helps assure a sustainable, clean energy future by working to increase energy efficiency.
- ... designs, installs, maintains configures and tests sophisticated equipment used to control and monitor the electrical grid.
- ... uses mathematics, science and business knowledge to find cost-effective and safe solutions to difficult problems

Procedure:

- Write each of the eight skilled trade careers on individual 3x5 cards.
- Write a brief definition of each of the respective seven electricity skilled trades careers on individual 3x5 cards. (A pre-formatted PDF version you can simply print out can be found at www.BrightFuturesBC.ca/cards)
- This should give you eight pairs which will accommodate a group of sixteen students.
- Depending on the size of your class you can provide multiple 3x5 cards of the careers and definitions. (So if you have a class of thirty-two you can double the number of cards.)
- Place the cards in a bag, mix them up and have each student pick out an individual card.
- Have the students walk around the classroom to find their match. Once they find their match, they can sit down as a pair.
- Once all of the students have found their match, take up the exercise to ensure there are no mismatches.

Part 2

Time: 15 - 20 minutes

Procedure:

- Have students individually read the student guide.

ENERGIZE YOUR FUTURE

www.brightfuturesBC.ca

Part 3

Time: 15 minutes

Activity: **Apprentice Wanted** (mock resume)

Procedure:

Option 1

- Ask students to write down the electricity careers in the order which interests each of them the most (from most interesting to least interesting.)
- Divide groups into the various careers based on their number one choice.
- If a particular career is rated 'most' interesting by a number of students split up the group to ensure that you have no more than four students in any one group.
- You may cover all eight careers or only touch upon a few, depending on the individual interests of the group.
- Once the groups of four have been formed, provide each group with a copy of the career brochure that relates to their chosen career. (Feel free to make copies of the brochure or print it from the website if you need more.)

Option 2

- Organize the groups of four based on the pairs in which the students ended up after the 'icebreaker' activity.
- This will allow all eight careers to be covered.
- Provide each group with a copy of the career brochure that relates to their chosen career. (Feel free to make copies of the brochure if you require more.)

Homework:

- Using the information in their respective brochures as a guide as well as the information in their student kit, group members should draft one collective mock resume (no more than two pages) they could use if they were applying for that particular job in a given company. They could use the following headings or come up with their own:

Career Objective
Education
Related Experience (paid/unpaid/volunteer)
Activities and Interests

- Power Resume Words can be handed out to the students to help with the assignment (see back page).
- Students should be encouraged to be creative in coming up with information for their mock resume. They can also use the Internet to research more about their chosen career to help in developing their mock resume.

- Useful Internet Sites for research are:

www.brightfuturesBC.ca

Lesson 2 of 2

Part 4

Time: 50 minutes

Activity: **Employee Wanted** (mock interview)

Procedure:

- As the teacher, you will play the role of the interviewer. (You can also choose to ask a few of your students to play this role.)
- The interviewer will be responsible in conducting a short interview with each of the applicants looking for a job while the rest of the class rates the interview.
- Select one group member from each group that will be the applicant (or have each of the groups select a spokesperson/applicant for their group).
- The interviewer and applicant role play for five minutes.
- The interviewer can ask the applicant the following questions:

Tell me why you are interested in pursuing a career as a ...

Describe any experience that you may have related to this particular job.

What level of education have you completed and what specific courses have you taken that are required for this job?

- Once all interview role plays are completed, debrief the exercise by asking which applicants would the class hire and why.

Employee Wanted

(mock interview)

- Here are some acceptable answers for the three interview questions that prove that the students absorbed the information in the student guide and brochures.

Tell me why you are interested in pursuing a career as a ...

- I am interested in using both my head and my hands.
- I know that an electricity career will offer me respect, opportunity, choices and a good paycheque.
- I want to know that I am doing something useful where people depend on my skills.
- I like the idea of learning by doing and being paid while I gain work experience in an apprenticeship.
- I am interested in working to benefit the environment.
- I like the idea of having to follow strict safety regulations to ensure my well being and that of my co-workers.
- I had no idea that there would be so many neat opportunities in the electricity sector and I would love to learn more about ... generation, transmission, distribution ...
- Anything specific that they may have taken from their career of choice brochure.

Describe any experience that you may have related to this particular job.

(This is where some of their creativity may shine through)

- I seem to always be the one around the house that is fixing any electrical problems ...
- I'm very committed to helping protect the environment and I've taught my family how to conserve energy...
- I have a lot of experience with computers so people always come to me to fix their problems ...

What level of education have you completed and what specific courses have you taken that are required for this job?

- Should be referencing the specific information in each brochure depending on the career for which they are applying.

Power Resume Words

Accelerated, accomplished, achieved, addressed, administered, advised

Bought, briefed, broadened, built

Catalogued, caused, changed, classified, combined, converted, coordinated

Dealt, decided, delegated, delivered, demonstrated, documented, distributed

Earned, eliminated, enlisted, ensured, established, evaluated, extended

Filed, focused, formulated, founded

Gathered, graded, granted, guided

Halved, handled, helped

Identified, implemented, instructed, interpreted, invented, influenced, inspected

Joined, kept, launched, learned, lectured, licensed

Made, matched, managed, measured, modified, monitored, motivated

Named, navigated, negotiated

Observed, opened, operated, ordered, organized

Participated, performed, planned, prepared, processed, programmed

Qualified, questioned

Raised, rated, received, recommended, regulated, repaired, reported, resolved

Saved, set up, serviced, specified, streamlined, strengthened, structured

Tackled, targeted, taught, traced, transformed, trimmed

Uncovered, understood, updated, used, utilized

4

ENERGIZE YOUR FUTURE

Check it out at: www.brightfuturesBC.ca



Ministry of
Energy, Mines and
Petroleum Resources

