

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Exploration Activities Results For Student Portfolio



# MECCA Overhead/Handout

## Attitudes Toward Nontraditional Careers

Answer the following questions based on your personal feelings about each of the ideas. There are no correct answers. Answer by circling the response which most closely represents your feelings using the following guide: SA = Strongly Agree: A = Agree: N = Neutral: D = Disagree: SD = Strongly Disagree.  
Discuss these questions to discover similarities and differences of opinion as related to wider career choices.

- |     |   |    |   |   |   |    |
|-----|---|----|---|---|---|----|
| 1.  | Full-time, outdoor jobs are unsuitable for females.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 2.  | Most women would marry a man even though he works as a secretary/clerk.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 3.  | Women who have paid jobs are unhappy.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 4.  | Truck driving is an appropriate career for females.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 5.  | Men are not patient enough to work with small children in nursery school.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 6.  | Boys interested in being a hair stylist are effeminate.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 7.  | A woman can have a career while raising a family.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 8.  | Money is the only reason adult women work outside the home.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 9.  | Physically, women are not capable of working as fire fighters.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 10. | A woman can be a good mother while working full time as a stockbroker.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 11. | Women are becoming too independent today.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 12. | Most boys do not have the finger coordination to be a typist.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 13. | Generally, females perform best at jobs where they are working with people.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 14. | High school girls should be encouraged to enroll in traditionally all-male vocational courses like air-conditioning repair. | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 15. | A man can be a good father while working full time as a nurse.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 16. | Boys should be encouraged to plan professional careers which require more than four years of college.                       | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 17. | A man is avoiding his responsibilities when he is at home full-time.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 18. | Women are smart enough to become engineers.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 19. | All adult women should be prepared to support themselves financially.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 20. | Most women who work in machine shops are unfeminine.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 21. | Ballet dancing is an appropriate career goal for boys.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 22. | Teaching woodworking is a suitable career for women.  | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 23. | Women who choose to join the labor force can also be competent mothers.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |
| 24. | Women can be effective business managers.   | SA | A | N | D | SD |

# OCCUPATIONAL INTEREST CHECKLIST

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK:

- \_\_\_\_\_ With my ideas or my mind.
- \_\_\_\_\_ With my hands or small tools.
- \_\_\_\_\_ With large machinery.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In heavy physical activity.

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK:

- \_\_\_\_\_ By myself.
- \_\_\_\_\_ With other people.

## IF I WORK WITH OTHER PEOPLE, I WOULD LIKE TO WORK:

- \_\_\_\_\_ As a member of a team of people working together.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Giving directions or supervising or organizing other people's work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Receiving directions and supervision from others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Listening to others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Helping or performing services for others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Persuading others.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Competing with others.

## I LIKE TO WORK WITH:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A variety of different tasks or activities and rapid or unpredictable changes of activities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A limited number of tasks which remain similar and predictable over time.

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK WHERE:

- \_\_\_\_\_ My tasks are clearly structured and I know exactly what is expected.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can set my own problems and figure out my own way to solve them.

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Flexible and irregular hours.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regular hours.

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Indoors
- \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoors.

## I WOULD LIKE TO WORK:

- \_\_\_\_\_ In the city or the suburbs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ In the country or rural areas.

## I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO WORK IN:

- \_\_\_\_\_ The area where I live now or a particular geographic area.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Many different areas of the U.S. possibly moving from place to place.

(Source: Utah VOTE materials, 1989 p.39)

# BOBILATOR DECISION SHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

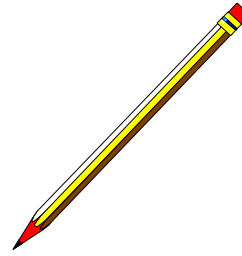
| Job Title        | Step 1 | Step 2 | Step 3 | Step 4 | Step 5 | Step 6 | Step 7 |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. Bobilator     |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 2. Gastronomist  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 3. Extricator    |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 4. Arbologist    |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 5. Husher        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 6. Wrencher      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 7. Knowleologist |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 8. Encodologist  |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 9. Imagizer      |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| 10. Haulassister |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |



## **Fantasy Job**

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Relax, close your eyes and give yourself the freedom to explore the world of work. Imagine that you can have any job you want. Now fantasize what is actually like to work in that job. Use the following criteria to help you be specific and write down your fantasy impressions.



Fantasy Job Title:

Description of Job: (What do you actually do? What is the typical day like?)

Abilities or Skills: (What do you need to be able to do to work in this job?)

Physical Setting: (What are the physical conditions of the work, for example, place noise level, hours, large or small company, indoors or outdoors.)

Education: (What kind and how much training did you need to do this job?)

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| <b>Educational Plan - Update</b>   |  |
|--|--|
| Educational Goal:     _____ Technical School     _____ Two Year College     _____ Other<br>_____ Four Year College     _____ High School     _____ Military<br>School Choice#1: _____<br>School Choice #2: _____ |  |
| Career Goal:<br>Arts/Communication _____<br>Business/Management _____<br>Health Services _____<br>Human Resources _____<br>Industrial/Engineering _____<br>Natural Resources _____                               |  |

| High School Course-Work Plan   |                |            |            |
|--|----------------|------------|------------|
| XX |                |            |            |
| Freshman   |                | Sophomore  |            |
| English  | English        | English    | English    |
| Science  | Science        | Science    | Science    |
| Math   | Math           | Math       | Math       |
| Social Studies   | Social Studies | Health     | Speech     |
| Keyboarding  | Reading        |            |            |
|  |                |            |            |
|  |                |            |            |
| XX |                |            |            |
| Junior   |                | Senior     |            |
| English  | English        | English    | English    |
| US History   | US History     | Government | Government |
| Consumer Economics   |                |            |            |
|  |                |            |            |
|  |                |            |            |
|  |                |            |            |

**Extra Curricular Activities:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*date*

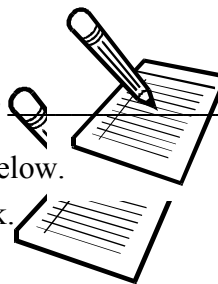
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*date*

# OCCUPATION ODYSSEY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



Write the titles of ten occupations that interest you in the first column below.

Refer to your lists on pages 16 and 20 in *Your Career Search* workbook.

Research these occupations using the CIS Occupations file.

Add your comments for each occupation in the second and third columns.

Choose at least four of these occupations to research more fully. Mark them with a star.

| Occupation Title | What did you hear, see, or read about the occupation that particularly interests you? | What thoughts or feelings do you have about the occupation (excellent, OK, weird)? |
|------------------|---|--|
|                  |   |  |
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## **MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIANS**

### **File: Occupations**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Medical laboratory technicians perform routine tests that help doctors and other medical staff diagnose, treat, and prevent illnesses.

Medical laboratory technicians collect and prepare specimens. They perform lab tests such as urinalysis, blood counts, and chemical analysis. They may operate automatic analyzers or may perform manual tests. They may clean and sterilize laboratory equipment. They may prepare solutions, and keep records of tests. They may report test results to doctors and nurses.

Technicians may work in several areas of the lab or in just one, such as cytotechnology (study of cells) or histotechnology (study of tissue). Histology technicians cut and stain tissue specimens for microscopic examination by pathologists. Phlebotomists draw and test blood.

#### **DOT SPECIALTIES**

This occupation is based on the following Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) specialties:

Medical-Laboratory Technician 078.381-014  
Pharmaceutical Laboratory Technician 559.361-010  
Phlebotomist 079.364-022

#### **APTITUDES**

Ability to see slight differences or changes in test substances or numerical readouts. Ability to use numbers and words. Use of fingers and hands. Eye-hand coordination. Ability to see how things fit together. Ability to make decisions using data. Ability to do precise work. Ability to direct others. Ability to see differences in colors.

#### **WORK SETTING**

Some medical lab technicians work a 40-hour week and some work more. Schedules may include evenings, nights, and weekends. Workers may rotate working weekends and holidays. They may work on call (available on short notice). They may work overtime to check tests daily and to complete tests. Medical lab technicians work as part of a team.

Medical lab technicians risk exposure to noise, unpleasant odors, chemicals, germs, and diseases. They may spend a lot of time standing at counters. They wear protective clothing such as lab jackets, latex gloves, and protective glasses. The work can create emotional and physical stress because treatment often depends on quick and accurate analysis of lab specimens.

#### **Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

Major employers: Hospitals, doctors' offices and clinics, medical laboratories, other health services such as blood banks and donor stations, sperm banks, outpatient centers for alcohol and drug treatment.



**HIRING PRACTICES**

Employers require that medical laboratory technicians have graduated from an accredited two-year program. Most require certification. Many employers prefer people who have experience. Computer skills are important.

**CURRENT EMPLOYMENT**

Idaho: About 400 work in this small occupation in Idaho.

National: In 1996, medical and clinical laboratory technicians held about 121,540 jobs in this medium-sized occupation. More than one out of two work in hospitals. Most others work in medical laboratories and offices and clinics of physicians. Some work in blood banks, research and testing laboratories, and for the Federal government. In the Federal government, they hold positions at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and U.S. Public Health Service facilities. About one out of six medical laboratory technicians works part-time.

**WAGES**

Idaho: The entry rate for medical laboratory technicians is about \$1,492/month (\$8.61/hour). Average top wage for technicians is \$3,120/month (\$18.00/hour).

Most medical and clinical technicians earn between \$1,820-\$2,895/month (\$10.50-\$16.70/hour).

National: The average wage for medical technicians is \$2,158/month (\$12.45/hour) in the United States.

**OUTLOOK**

Slight shortage of medical technicians. Slight surplus of phlebotomists.

In the long run employment is likely to grow moderately in the state and nation. Demand will grow as doctors use more lab tests to diagnose and treat diseases. Population growth and the development of new tests also increases the demand for medical lab technicians. Turnover creates many openings.

Automation in testing equipment limits job growth when fewer people can do more work. Using simpler test procedures, consolidating hospitals, and merging laboratories also limits job growth. In addition, robots may prepare specimens and do other work that technicians now do.

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

Hiring practices of employers also affect the demand for technicians. Some employers prefer to hire medical lab technicians to save money. Others prefer to hire medical technologists for their specific training and knowledge. The outlook also depends on the number of people who complete training programs.

### **SKILLS**

Performing laboratory analyses and using testing instruments. Verbal skills to communicate results. Analytical and problem-solving skills. Math and mechanical skills. Following procedures. Consistently performing tasks at the same level of quality. Accurately using tools to determine volume or weight. Close attention to detail. Patience. Knowledge of basic anatomy and physiology. Electronic and computer skills are becoming important.

### **LICENSING**

Certification is voluntary, while licensure, certification, or registration are required in some states. Some states require medical laboratory technicians be licensed, certified, or registered. Licensing requirements vary by state. In Idaho, licensing is not required by the state. However, most employers require certification.

Certification is available through several national organizations and is widely accepted by employers in the health industry. Certification is a prerequisite for most jobs and often is necessary for advancement. Agencies that certify medical laboratory technicians include the Board of Registry of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and the American Medical Technologists. The National Certification Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel and the Credentialing Commission for the International Society for Clinical Laboratory Technology also certify these workers. These agencies have different requirements for certification and different organizational sponsors. In general, the criteria for certification of technicians are:

- high school diploma;
- graduation from an accredited clinical laboratory science program; and
- one year of experience.

For more information on certification, contact:

American Society of Clinical Pathologists  
Board of Registry  
2100 West Harrison Street  
Chicago, IL 60612-3798  
(312) 738-1336  
<http://www.ascp.org>

Licensing requirements vary from state to state. People who want to work in another state should find out what that state requires.

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

## **PREPARATION**

Medical lab technicians need a two-year degree. Those who are graduates of the two-year training programs can take national certification exams. Former military and other medical lab workers without formal credentials may prove their skills by passing national proficiency exams.

## **TIPS**

Employers recommend that students who are interested in this field take a lot of math and science courses while in high school. Helpful courses include algebra, biology, chemistry, physics, and English.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

"Occupational Outlook Handbook"

(1998-99 Edition), p. 209

Superintendent of Documents

U.S. Government Printing Office

Washington, DC 20402

Internet: <http://stats.bls.gov/ocohome.htm>

"The Complete Guide for Occupational Exploration"

(1993 Edition), p. 131

JIST Works, Inc.

720 North Park Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46202-3431

Phone: (317) 264-3720

Fax: (800) 547-8329

Internet: <http://www.jist.com/>

"Military Careers"

(1995-98 Edition), p. 70

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Military Entrance Processing Center

2500 Green Bay Road

North Chicago, IL 60064-3094

Phone: (800) 323-0513

Internet: <http://www.defenselink.mil/>

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

"Careers in Laboratory Animal Science" (First copy free)  
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science  
70 Timber Creek Drive  
Cordova, TN 38018-4233  
Phone: (901) 754-8620  
Fax: (901) 753-0046  
E-mail: [info@aalas.org](mailto:info@aalas.org)

"Clinical Chemistry: Partnerships in Healthcare" (Free)  
The American Association for Clinical Chemistry  
Education Department  
2101 L Street, NW  
Suite 202  
Washington, DC 20037-1526  
Phone: (800) 892-1400  
Fax: (202) 857-5093  
E-mail: [info@aacc.org](mailto:info@aacc.org)

"Opportunities in Medical Technology Careers" (\$11.95)  
by Karen R. Karni, ISBN 0-8442-4638-7  
VGM Career Books  
4255 West Touhy Avenue  
Lincolnwood, IL 60646-1975  
Phone: (800) 323-4900  
Fax: (800) 998-3103  
E-mail: [ntcpub@tribune.com](mailto:ntcpub@tribune.com)

"Consider a Career in Cytotechnology" (First copy free)  
American Society of Cytopathology  
400 West Ninth Street  
Suite 201  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
Phone: (302) 429-8802  
Fax: (302) 429-8807  
E-mail: [asc@cytopathology.org](mailto:asc@cytopathology.org)

"Planning a Career in Biomedical Engineering" (First copy free;  
send a self-addressed stamped #10 envelope)  
Biomedical Engineering Society  
PO Box 2399  
Culver City, CA 90231  
Internet: <http://mecca.mecca.org/BME/BMES/society/bmeshm.html>

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

"Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance"

Vol. 3, p. 540.

J.G. Ferguson Publishing Company

200 West Madison Street

Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: (800) 306-9941

Fax: (800) 306-9942

E-mail: [fergpub@aol.com](mailto:fergpub@aol.com)

Internet: [www.fergpubco.com/faq.cs.htm](http://www.fergpubco.com/faq.cs.htm)

"Careers in Medical Laboratory Technology" (First copy free;

\$4.00 for each additional 10 copies)

American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Board of Registry

PO Box 12277

Chicago, IL 60612-0277

Phone: (312) 738-1336

Fax: (312) 738-5808

### **CAREER PATHWAY**

Health Services

### **OCCUPATIONAL CLUSTER**

Science and Laboratory Occupations

### **RELATED OCCUPATIONS**

Medical Technologists

Phlebotomists

Radiologic Technologists

Science Technicians

Veterinary Technicians

### **JOB SEARCH INFORMATION**

Steps to a Successful Job Search

### **RELATED INDUSTRIES (EMPLOYERS)**

Hospitals

Medical Laboratories

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**

## **RELATED MILITARY OCCUPATION**

Medical Laboratory Technicians

## **RELATED CIS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

Chemistry Programs

Life Sciences

Medical Laboratory Technologies

**Sample excerpt from Idaho Career Information Systems.**