TARGET GRADES  
5th – 12th Grades

OBJECTIVE  
Exposure to local careers and companies

This activity supports students in understanding the range careers that go into developing, distributing and selling products or services that are made in our region. It can also help familiarize them with some of the major employers in our region.

PREP TIME REQUIRED  
5 minutes

PREP STEPS  
• Read these instructions
• Print or write out examples of products or services that are developed or produced locally such as a Boeing 737 or Microsoft XBOX. A longer sample list is provided below.
• Print out the “Made Local Response Sheet” below, or simply have students write their answers on their own paper.

ACTIVITY TIME REQUIRED  
15 minutes

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS  
1. Put students into small teams (3-5 students)
2. Give each small team the name of a product or service made by a company in the Puget Sound
3. Give students 4-7 minutes (or more if you want!) to brainstorm all of the careers that go into developing, producing and selling that product
   • Before starting, you may want to provide your own example to give students the idea. For example, if the item was a “Theo Chocolate Bar,” careers might include: supply chain manager (sources ingredients), graphic designer (develops packaging) and sales manager (sells product to stores).
   • If students are having a difficult time, you can have them go on the company’s jobs/careers web page to browse job openings to get ideas.
   • Remind students to think about things like: What is the product made from? How did they learn about the product? How does the product get to them?
4. After time is up, have students exchange papers with another team for grading.
   • Each team should count the number of jobs listed by the other team and also ask for clarification if they feel a job on the list isn’t realistic.
   • They should also choose one of the jobs on the other team’s list that was one of their favorites or one they hadn’t thought of and circle it.
5. Have teams report out for their partner team how many careers they got and the favorite career they identified and why. The team in the class that has brainstormed the largest number of careers listed wins!
DEBRIEF QUESTIONS
• What were some careers you heard about that you hadn’t thought of before?
• Was there a career you heard about that you are interested in exploring?
• Is there a company you heard about that you are interested in learning more about?

STRETCH ACTIVITY IDEAS
• Introduce the 16 Career Clusters and have the students connect the careers they brainstormed to the clusters. Have students discuss the cluster they are most interested in, and one they’d like to learn more about.
• Have teams research their product or service and present to the class about the careers involved in making it.
• Once students have gone through the main activity, have students choose one career or company to research and share about with the class or a small group.

For additional resources and to sign up for the DiscoverU newsletter, visit our website at www.discoveruwa.org
SAMPLE PRODUCTS, EVENTS OR SERVICES DEVELOPED IN KING COUNTY

- Alaska Airlines Flight to Hawaii
- Boeing 737 Airplane
- Bumbershoot Music Festival
- Costco Tire Service
- Expedia Vacation Package
- KEXP Audioasis Radio Show
- Knee Surgery at Swedish Medical Center
- King County Metro Bus Ride
- Microsoft XBOX
- Nordstrom Anniversary Sale
- Rachel’s Ginger Beer
- REI Backpack
- Renton Technical College Degree
- Seattle Storm WNBA Championship Game
- Starbucks Pikes Place Roast Coffee
- Tableau Desktop
- Theo Chocolate Bar
- Washington State Department of Transportation Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Tunnel
- Weyerhaeuser Lumber (for home building construction)
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