

INVESTIGATING CAREER CLUSTERS



Environment

What Is the Environment Cluster?

Occupations in the environment cluster involve the protection of natural resources and guarding the best interests of the population. Jobs center around pollution prevention and control, disease prevention, environmental planning, and resource control.

Skills Needed

science skills, communication skills, drawing skills, math skills, physical strength, and knowledge of the environment

THE FACTS	Types of Careers in This Cluster	Work Description	Career Outlook	Education
	Environmental technician	Use principles of science and math to solve problems in the environment	Average	Associate's degree
	Urban planner	Plan to provide for growth and revitalization of communities	Faster than average	Master's degree
	Landscape architect	Design residential areas, public parks, college campuses, and shopping centers to be functional, beautiful, and in keeping with the environment	Average	Bachelor's degree
	Conservation scientist	Manage, improve, and protect rangelands for livestock	Average	Bachelor's degree
	Zoologist	Study animals, how they grow, and where they live	Fast growing	Master's degree
	Forest ecologist	Help forests survive changes in the environment	Average	High-school diploma, Voc-Tech diploma

ACTIVITY

Your goal: Lay out a new landscape for your school.

What to think about: The environment is what surrounds us. Sometimes it is attractive and pleasant. Sometimes it is not. Landscape architects help make the environment more pleasant and functional.

What to do: Imagine that you are a landscape architect for a day. Design the landscape for your own school. Remember to cover all of the outdoor areas around your school.

Consider the following questions when designing your landscape:

- What kinds of trees, flowers, and shrubs will you plant?
- Where will they be planted?
- What kinds of benches, pathways, eating and play areas will you have?
- Where will they be?

Sketch a diagram of your plan for your school on a separate sheet of paper. (If you have access to a computer software program for this purpose, use it.) Be sure to label everything on your diagram.

CRITICAL THINKING

1. What do you think of the jobs in this cluster? Do you think you might like to work in one of them? If so, which one?

2. How do the people who work in this cluster help you, your family, and your community? Explain in one paragraph.
