

Lesson 1: EXPLORING STEM

(Recommended Time 30 minutes)

Overview

Students explore the meaning of STEM and high-growth careers. A self-assessment will be completed to see what STEM careers most closely match their skills and interests.

Objectives

Students will:

- Increase their awareness of careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- Make the initial connection between what interests them, what they are studying in school, and the opportunities available in high-demand careers.
- Complete a STEM self-assessment to see what STEM careers are best suited for them.

Intro

Define high-growth
careers
(share examples)

KEY WORDS & CONCEPTS:



High-Growth Careers: Occupations predicted to have more positions available than qualified applicants over the next 10 years.

Tell the students that many high-demand, high-growth careers can be found in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Explain that STEM careers are in demand in today's workforce at Lilly and around the world. They are predicted to remain so over the next 10 years. Encourage the students to think about how the STEM disciplines might help them achieve their goals.

Some STEM careers do not require a college degree and offer students exciting, high-paying opportunities. More information about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) careers as well as statistics and resources are provided in the virtual STEM Experience.

Lesson 1: cont.

Ask students to think about their skills, interests, and desired work environment. Define and give examples if needed.

KEY WORDS & CONCEPTS:



Skills: A person's preferred activities or hobbies.



Interests: A person's talents or abilities.



Work Environment: The surroundings in a place of work, including physical and social conditions and other factors, that affect the quality of the job experience.

Ask the students to do [STEM STUDY Quiz](https://stemstudy.com/stem-program-quiz):
stemstudy.com/stem-program-quiz

Students will then analyze their results and record their top 3 areas of interest. On the Stem Study site, students can explore STEM careers and gather information. Information can be recorded on the [STEM Career Exploration Student Guide](#).

Do a 2-3 Minute “Turn and Talk” About Your Findings

Use the talking points below to discuss as a class.

Talking Points for Class:

What STEM careers do you see that interest you?

What are skills needed in STEM careers?

What type of further education or training will you need to meet your career goals?

Do you think that you will use elements of STEM in your career paths?

