

Researching a STEM Career

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

For this exercise, you will engage in research about STEM careers. You will decide which resource is the most reliable.



What makes a resource reliable?

It can be challenging to assess online resources to understand which information you can trust. Let's practice first. Let's imagine a project. You are researching **massage therapy** as a career. You'd like to know (1) required education, (2) typical salary, and (3) required skills.

<https://careerlink.co.us>

CAREER LINK

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATH

Massage Therapist



Education: High school diploma or GED
Specialized Training: YES
Salary: \$30 or more per hour
Duties: Create and execute a treatment plan for patients with muscular discomfort or injury.
Skills: Time management, communication, computer applications, self-motivation, decision-making, personable disposition

<http://cash.careeradvice.net>

TIME FOR A NEW Career

Become a massage therapist in 6 weeks!



No high school or GED? No problem!

- Attend our intro session via Zoom.
- Enter your credit card number.
- You only pay \$29.95 for all the information to make your next career move!



CLICK HERE Enter your email to get started!



Let's compare. What differences do you see?

Feature	Career Link	Buy Career Advice
URL	<i>https</i> is secure	<i>http</i> may not be secure
Cost	Free information	\$29.99 for information
Credibility	Realistic information	6 weeks not realistic No diploma or GED
Request for information	No email required	Personal information required to access information



What will you find? Now, try it out. Choose a STEM Career to research from the career bank or on your own. Fill in the table that follows with the information you gather.

Career bank		
surgeon researcher video game developer geologist	veterinarian financial analyst pharmacist architect	accountant civil engineer non-profit director network engineer



Research Directions

Step 1. Complete an Internet search using a search engine like Google. Try a search like one of these:

- ***Network engineer salary education***
- ***What does a civil engineer do?***
- ***How to become a pharmacist***

Step 2. Click on at least 2 links to see each website.

Step 3. Briefly SCAN each site for information. Do you see any red flags?

Site #1		
Feature	Details	Notes/Questions
URL	☐ https ☐ Professional (.com, .gov, .co, .org, etc.)	
Name/ Title	☐ Professional	
Information provided	☐ Organized ☐ Easy to scan ☐ Accurate ☐ Pertains to your work ☐ Appears similar to other sites	
Cost	☐ Free ☐ Optional link for more information ☐ Pay required for information	
Request for information	☐ No information requested ☐ Information optional ☐ Information required for information	



Write about it

Would you use this site? Why or why not?

Site #2		
Feature	Details	Notes/Questions
URL	☐ https ☐ Professional (.com, .gov, .co, .org, etc.)	
Name/Title	☐ Professional	
Information provided	☐ Organized ☐ Easy to scan ☐ Accurate ☐ Pertains to your work ☐ Appears similar to other sites	
Cost	☐ Free ☐ Optional link for more information ☐ Pay required for information	
Request for information	☐ No information requested ☐ Information optional ☐ Information required for information	



Write about it

Would you use this site? Why or why not?



III. A Potential Career? Once you have found a credible website, write a summary in your notes about the career you researched. Include the following information:

- Site URL and name
- Two features of this site that indicated credibility
- Required education for this career
- Typical salary range for this career

- Duties and/or skills for this career