

**“It’s News to Me!”  
Teaching with Colorado’s Historic Newspaper Collection  
Model Lesson Format**

**Lesson Title:**

Colorado Jobs Past and Present: A Lesson On Careers

**Subject and Grade Level:**

History, Careers, Science, Language Arts  
Grades 5-8 For use by: teachers, counselors, gifted teachers, librarians

**Focus of Lesson:** A brief explanation of what students are to learn in this lesson (content and/or skills). What is the purpose of the lesson?

This lesson examines Colorado employment prior to and after 1920. Students use skills with computer literacy and searching in historical records. They also use higher level thinking skills such as comparing, contrasting, and categorizing. Career literacy is emphasized. Students will ask and answer critical thinking questions, such as “Are there any jobs that have become obsolete in Colorado over time?” and “How has the improvement of travel and communication impacted the kinds of jobs that we have in Colorado today that we didn’t have before 1920?” Dictionaries are utilized. Students practice reading for retention and oral expression exercises.

**Standards Assessed:** Which standards will you be assessing in this lesson? Identify the content area, the standard number and any key components or benchmarks that are applicable.

**Information Literacy Standard 1:** The information literate student accesses information efficiently and effectively.

**Information Literacy Standard 2:** The information literate student evaluates information critically and competently.

**Assessment:** Explain the assessment. (Include the formal 'assessment assignment' and any forms, worksheets, etc. in the Materials Section)

Assessment: Use the rubric for assessing days 1 & 2, day 3 and day 4.

Computer Research &  
 Class Participation Day #1,2    Categorizing Jobs Day #3    Oral Report on a Job of Choice Day #4

Class participation evident by 3 oral or written statements about jobs referenced from at least 3 historical or other online sources	90% correct responses	Report demonstrates use of 3 references, charts or photos, historical accuracy, correct vocabulary, critical thinking and comparison/contrast with other jobs	Excellent
Class participation evident by 2 oral or written statements about jobs referenced from at least 2 historical or other online sources	80% correct responses	Report demonstrates use of 2 references, charts or photos, historical accuracy, correct vocabulary, critical thinking, and comparison/contrast with other jobs	Proficient
Class participation evident by 1 oral or written statement about jobs referenced from at least 2 historical or other online sources	70% correct responses	Report demonstrates use of 1 reference, charts or photos, historical accuracy, correct vocabulary, compare/contrast with other jobs	Basic

Extra Credit activities:

EXTRA CREDIT OR EXTENDED OPPORTUNITIES:  
 (These may also be used for gifted students.)

[Post News Education](#): oil drilling as an occupation & its effects on our society  
 Lesson on drilling oil called, "Pumping Oil" a weekly online lesson  
 NIE online, Grades 6-9 *Science*

Story of the Week    News Currents    [Post News Education](#)  
 Oil Prices: Out of Control"

How much was a gallon of gasoline in 1910? It was approx. 17cents at most

pumps. What is the price today in various localities?

Will we return to some of the old fashioned methods of transportation, if oil prices continue to rise? Research your ideas. Will people in Colorado invent new methods of travel? Invent your own method of travel for the future.

Expand this career lesson plan into *Science or Social Studies*:

**Heroes** Explore Colorado heroes and heroines.

Use: [Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

One example: Senator Nixon [Akron Weekly](#) 1911 April 21

Telegraph Operator Heroes [Bayfield Blade](#) Sept. 26, 1912

**Occupations for Women** See: [Colorado Banner](#), Boulder, Feb. 3, 1876

What jobs existed for women in 1876? Use: [Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

**Child Labor** Ages: 10-15 See: [Castle Rock Journal](#), Feb. 15, 1907

Use: [Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

Were some child workers the sole breadwinner for their families?

**President Ulysses S. Grant gave a message about occupation changes in**

**Manufacturing, Mining, Commerce, and Education.** What did he have to say?

What were the trends in occupations at the time?

See: [Colorado Daily Chieftan](#), Dec. 8, 1875.

Use: [Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

**Parades** See: *The Denver Times July 3 1885*

*From the Denver Public Library photo gallery online*

[Parades photos The Denver Public Library](#) What kind of jobs were represented in the late 1800s in Colorado?

**Standards Addressed:** Which standards will you be addressing (but not assessing) in this lesson? Identify the content area, the standard number and any key components or benchmarks that are applicable.

**History Standard 2:** Students know how to use the processes and resources of historical inquiry.

**History Standard 2.1:** Students know how to formulate questions and hypotheses regarding what happened in the past and to obtain and analyze historical data to answer questions and test hypotheses.

**History Standard 2.2:** Students know how to interpret and evaluate primary and secondary sources of historical information.

**American School Counselor Association  
Career Standards Based on the ASCA National Model**

Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions

Students will employ strategies to achieve future career goals with success and satisfaction

Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education, training, and the world of work

**Reading and Writing Standard 1:** Students read and understand a variety of materials.

**Reading and Writing Standard 2:** Students apply thinking skills to their reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing

**Reading and Writing Standard 3:** Students demonstrate use a variety of texts, i.e. newspapers

**Science Standard 5.2:** Identify careers related to science/technology fields

**Time:** The number of class periods required for the lesson as well as the length of class period.

**There are 4 class periods of 45 minutes to 60 minutes each period.**

**Materials / Teacher Preparation Section:** List the technology, handouts, chart paper, text resources, etc. needed to complete the lesson. Include what you need to do to prepare ahead of time for your students to complete the lesson.

Materials:

Students need dictionaries, to look up jobs/occupations they don't recognize. Wikipedia online is a helpful resource for searching job time periods.

Day 1 and Day 2:

Students will be using computers. They will work individually at computer stations, or in pairs, according to teacher preference.

Day 3:

Students place numbers on a Venn diagram that they draw.

Assign students to draw a large Venn Diagram on a piece of butcher paper or newsprint. Newsprint is often available at local newspaper offices.

Day 4: students give a short oral presentation on a job of choice.

**Possible Procedures:** Enumerate the procedure teachers can follow to teach the lesson to students. Provide the URL for the digital primary sources that you will use.

### Day 1

Introduce this lesson by talking about jobs present and past in Colorado. Use resources listed below from [Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

Students divide into pairs at the computer and research 3 of the following historical data pieces. Then they explore on their own.

- Wagon Repairman: *Colorado Springs Gazette*, Feb. 10, 1877
- Saloons: *Colorado Weekly Chieftan*, Nov. 15, 1877
- What is a livery? *Bayfield Blade*, Jan. 15, 1915
- Are newspapers a good industry for a town? *Bayfield Blade*, May 29, 1914
- Did photographers and cartoon artists exist in 1917? *Akron Weekly Pioneer Press*, Jul. 13, 1917
- Did social work exist or social workers in 1908? *Breckenridge Bulletin*, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14, 1908.
- Did druggists have to pass an exam to become druggists in 1906? *Breckenridge Bulletin*, Mar. 31, 1906
- What was a jobber? *The Tribune*, June 6, 1879 Jobbers do exist today. See: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jobbers>
- Did physicians have nostrums concerning their prescriptions? What are nostrums? *Breckenridge Bulletin*, Aug. 24, 1907
- Growth of telephone stations from 1879 to 1922: *Akron Weekly*, May 19, 1922
- Were there real train robbers in 1896? *Aspen Weekly*, Oct. 17, 1896
- What kinds of cereal were made in 1903 for kids? *Greeley Tribune*, June 4, 1903, p.4

### Day 2

Class Discussion and Participation

Share examples from the teacher, in group discussion, and individually about information found from searches in Day 1.

### Day 3

Instructions for Venn diagram

Materials: Students need dictionaries, to look up job/occupations they don't recognize. Assign students to draw a large Venn Diagram on a piece of butcher paper or newsprint. Newsprint is often available at local newspaper offices.

Students will list numbers on their Venn diagram for each job in the listing. One circle represents Colorado jobs on or before 1920. The other circle represents

Colorado jobs after 1920. There are many jobs that have existed in both periods of time, which will be listed in the overlap area by number. Due to limited space on the diagram, the jobs are numbered.

Instructions to students:

1. Give your diagram a title, such as “Comparison of Colorado Jobs Over Time”. Then label the diagram. Label one circle, “Colorado Jobs On or Before 1920”. Label the other circle, “Colorado Jobs After 1920”.

Note: job titles have changed, even though some jobs still exist today from the 1800s. Here are some examples listed below of job titles that may have changed or are in transitional change.

<u>Job title on or before 1920</u>	<u>Today's job title</u>
Hand Launderer	Cleaners Operator
Mercantile Owner	Grocery Owner
Ombudsman	Government Official
Saloon Operator	Bartender
Dancehall Girl	Entertainer
Druggist	Pharmacist
Stenographer	Administrative Assistant
Moving Pictures Attendant	Theater Attendant
Bookkeeper	Accountant
Livery Operator	Stables Attendant
Telephone & Telegraph Operator	Telegraph Attendant
Hunter and Trapper	Hunting Guide
Steam Boiler Maker	Factory Boiler Maker
Boat Hand	Boat Attendant
Blacksmith	Ferrier
Flour Mill Operator	Mill Attendant
Saddler	Saddle and Leather Maker
Boarding House Operator	Bed and Breakfast Owner
Hairdresser	Cosmetologist
Journeyman	Metal Worker or Tool/Dye Worker
Peddler	Solicitor or Salesman

2. List the following jobs alphabetically and ***number each one***. These numbers will be written on your Venn diagram, representing each job. (Alphabetizing the list is optional, according to teacher instructions.)

1. Insurance Agent
2. City, State or County Official
3. Leather Worker
4. Librarian

5. Superintendent
6. Social Service Worker
7. Counselor
8. Gardener
9. Chauffeur
10. Cleaners Attendant
11. Pilot
12. Policeman
13. Fireman
14. Funeral Director or Mortuary Assistant
15. Comedian
16. Lobbyist
17. Computer Operator
18. Entrepreneur
19. Realtor
20. Teacher
21. Cartoon Artist
22. Railroad Worker
23. Union Leader
24. Brewer and Bottler
25. Attorney or Lawyer
26. Judge
27. Physician or Doctor
28. Nurse
29. Dentist
30. Newspaper Worker
31. Military Service Person or Soldier
32. Miner
33. Farmer
34. Ranch Hand
35. Barber
36. Clothing Store Attendant
37. Shoe Store Attendant
38. Drug Store Worker
39. Opera House Manager
40. Restaurant Worker
41. Machinery Operator
42. Stenographer
43. Loan Inspector
44. Accountant
45. Musician
46. Engineer
47. Printer
48. Piano and Organ Tuner
49. Jailor
50. Poet

51. Hotel Manager
52. Gunsmith
53. Locksmith
54. Photographer
55. Seamstress or Tailor
56. Artist
57. Florist
58. Entertainer
59. Mill Operator
60. Cashier

Have you found any other jobs in your reading from additional resources, such as newspapers, books or media resources?

Use the Bureau of Labor web site at: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) or use the Handbook for 2006 found at: [Occupation Outlook Handbook](#)

Some jobs have become obsolete or have changed names after many years.

Listed below are a few examples.

Army Scout  
Lumberjack  
Orchardist  
Freight Courier  
Travel Equipment Repairman  
Wagon Repairman Trapper  
Freight Wagon Courier  
Gunsmith  
Parson  
Carriage Shop Operator  
Stagecoach Driver  
Pony Express Rider

Answer Key for Teachers, Librarians, Gifted Teachers and School Counselors:

Jobs existing **primarily** on or before 1920 or have changed names include: Army Scout, Carriage Shop Attendant, Blacksmith, Courier, Freight Wagon Courier, Gunsmith, Livery Worker, Lumberjack, Parson, Pony Express Rider, Saloon Operator, Stagecoach Driver, Telephone & Telegraph Operator, Tool & Dye Operator, Trapper, Wagon Repairman,

Jobs that have existed both prior to 1920 and after 1920 include: accountant, artist, attorney, banker, barber, brewer, cartoon artist, cashier, city/county/state worker, chauffeur, clothing store owner, comedian, computer operator, dentist, drug store owner, engineer, fireman, florist, funeral director, gardener, inspector, investor, jailor, jobber, judge, leather worker, librarian, loan inspector, lobbyist, locksmith, military serviceman, mill worker, machinery operator, miner, musician, newspaper worker, opera house manager, photographer, physician,

piano & organ tuner, pilot, poet, policeman, ranch hand, railroad worker, realtor, restaurant owner, salesman, seamstress, shoe store attendant, social worker, superintendent, teacher, union leader

Jobs existing primarily after 1920 are all other jobs in the list.

Examples include: computer operator, counselor, entertainer, and entrepreneur

Final Activity for Day 3:

Students Compare and Contrast Present Day Colorado Jobs With Jobs That Existed Before 1920.

Provide time for class discussion with the whole class, and in groups.

Provide time for searching historical articles in

[Colorado Historic Newspapers](#)

**Day 4**

Students may work individually or in pairs. Students are assigned to choose a job, past or present, for further research. Students give a short, five to ten minute presentation orally in class. Students will be assessed on the rubric from page 2.

### Instructions for Venn diagram **Lesson #3**

Materials: Students need dictionaries, to look up job/occupations they don't recognize.

Handout of the Venn diagram and Job Listing, which begins with "Insurance Agent".

Students will list jobs on the Venn diagram. One circle represents Colorado jobs on or before 1920. The other circle represents Colorado jobs after 1920. There are some jobs that have existed in both periods of time, which will be listed in the overlap area. Due to space on the diagram, the jobs are numbered. The numbers for each of the jobs can be listed on the Venn diagram rather than the job names.

Instructions to students:

Give your diagram a title, such as "Comparison of Colorado Jobs Over Time"

1. Label the diagram. Label one circle, "Colorado Jobs On or Before 1920".  
Label the other circle, "Colorado Jobs After 1920".

Note: job titles have changed, even though some jobs still exist today from the 1800s. Here are some examples listed below.

<u>Job title on or before 1920</u>	<u>Today's job title</u>
Hand laundry	Cleaners
Mercantile	Grocery Owner
Ombudsman	Government Official
Investor	Entrepreneur
Saloon Operator	Bartender
Dancehall Girl	Entertainer
Druggist	Pharmacist
Stenographer	Administrative Assistant
Moving Pictures Attendant	Theater attendant
Bookkeeper	Accountant
Livery Operator	Stables Attendant
Telephone & Telegraph Operator	Telegraph Attendant
Hunter and Trapper	Hunting Guide
Steam Boiler Maker	Factory Boiler Maker
Boat Hand	Boat Attendant
Blacksmith	Horseshoeing
Flour Mill Operator	Mill Attendant
Saddlery	Saddle and Leather Maker
Boarding House Operator	Bed and Breakfast Owner
Hairdresser	Beautician
Journeyman	Metal Worker (Tool & Dye Worker)
Peddler	Solicitor or Salesman

2. List the following jobs alphabetically and ***number each one***:  
(Alphabetizing the list is optional, according to teacher instructions.)

Insurance Agent  
City, State or County Official  
Leather Worker  
Librarian  
Superintendent  
Social Service Worker  
Counselor  
Gardener  
Chauffeur  
Cleaners Attendant  
Pilot  
Policeman  
Fireman  
Funeral Director or Mortuary Assistant  
Comedian  
Lobbyist  
Computer Operator  
Entrepreneur  
Realtor  
Teacher  
Cartoon Artist  
Railroad Worker  
Union Leader  
Brewer and Bottler  
Attorney  
Judge  
Physician (Doctor)  
Nurse  
Dentist  
Newspaper Worker  
Military Service Person  
Miner  
Farmer  
Ranch Hand  
Barber  
Clothing Store Attendant  
Shoe Store Attendant  
Drug Store Worker  
Opera House Manager  
Restaurant Worker  
Machinery Operator

Stenographer  
Loan Inspector  
Accountant  
Musician  
Engineer  
Printer  
Piano & Organ Tuner  
Jailor  
Poet  
Hotel Manager  
Gunsmith  
Locksmith  
Photographer  
Seamstress or Tailor  
Artist  
Florist  
Entertainer  
Mill Operator  
Cashier  
City, State or County Official  
Leather Worker  
Librarian  
Superintendent  
Social Service Worker  
Counselor  
Gardener  
Chauffeur  
Cleaners Attendant  
Pilot  
Policeman  
Fireman  
Funeral Director or Mortuary Assistant  
Comedian  
Lobbyist  
Computer Operator  
Entrepreneur

3. What are these jobs? Has anyone ever heard of them? Many of these jobs are obsolete.

Army Scout  
Lumberjack  
Orchardist  
Freight Courier  
Travel Equipment Repairman

Wagon Repairman  
Trapper  
Freight Wagon Courier  
Gunsmith  
Parson  
Carriage Shop Operator  
Stagecoach Driver  
Pony Express Rider

4. Have you found any other jobs in your reading that are also obsolete or nearly obsolete?

Answer Key for Teachers, Librarians and School Counselors:

Jobs existing primarily on or before 1920 include: Army Scout, Carriage Shop Attendant, Blacksmith, Courier, Freight Wagon Courier, Gunsmith, Livery Worker, Lumberjack, Parson, Pony Express Rider, Saloon Operator, Stagecoach Driver, Telephone & Telegraph Operator, Tool & Dye Operator, Trapper, Wagon Repairman,

Jobs that have existed both prior to 1920 and after 1920 include: accountant, artist, attorney, banker, barber, brewer, cartoon artist, cashier, city/county/state worker, chauffeur, clothing store owner, comedian, computer operator, dentist, drug store owner, engineer, fireman, florist, funeral director, gardener, inspector, investor, jailor, jobber, judge, leather worker, librarian, loan inspector, lobbyist, locksmith, military serviceman, mill worker, machinery operator, miner, musician, newspaper worker, opera house manager, photographer, physician, piano & organ tuner, pilot, poet, policeman, ranch hand, railroad worker, realtor, restaurant owner, salesman, seamstress, shoe store attendant, social worker, superintendent, teacher, union leader,

Jobs existing primarily after 1920 are all other jobs in the list.

Examples include: computer operator, counselor, entertainer, and entrepreneur





