



Filmmaking Careers: Classroom Lesson Plan

Lesson Topic:

Identifying Careers in the Film Industry

Lesson Objective:

Students will be able to describe careers in filmmaking and their associated responsibilities.

Materials:

- Books, magazines, or Internet access for research
- Blank paper
- Writing utensils
- Projector or other method to watch the movie

Advanced Preparation:

- [Preview the video](#) before sharing it with your students [2:02].

Warm-up Activity:

1. Ask students to brainstorm words they associate with the term filmmaking career (i.e., actress, Hollywood, director, camera, etc.). Have students share their ideas with the class.
2. Tell students to research careers in filmmaking using books, magazines, or the internet.
3. During their research, students should compile a list of filmmaking careers including job descriptions and responsibilities.

4. In small groups, ask students to compare the words they brainstormed with the careers they learned about while researching. Have students note any new careers or ideas that were not mentioned during the brainstorming.
5. Have each student select one or two filmmaking careers that they find appealing and write a few sentences explaining why they selected those careers.

View the Video: "Filmmaking Careers"

1. Tell students they will be watching the video titled, "Filmmaking Careers".
2. Explain that the video presents role models talking about some of the careers available in the film industry and the reasons that they chose a film career.
3. Ask students to listen for the careers that they found during their research in the Warm-up Activity section and add any new careers mentioned in the video to their list. Then, view the video together. Have students share any new careers they learned about.
4. View the video again; this time, invite students to formulate questions or comments about the ideas discussed in the video and to be prepared to discuss these after viewing the video.

Video Follow-up:

1. Ask students to offer their questions, comments, reactions and responses to the video.
2. Have students reflect on the careers in filmmaking they learned about through their own research and from watching the movie. Ask students to write specific things they learned about filmmaking careers (i.e., "Directors get to share their stories with



other people and make decisions about all different parts of a movie. This career sounds hard but also really interesting.”).

3. Have students share their written work with the class and encourage discussion about careers in filmmaking and steps students can take now to prepare for these types of careers.
4. To close, encourage students to share the things they learned about filmmaking careers with their friends and family.

Extension Activities:

1. Use the “Related Questions to Explore” as discussion springboards or writing prompts to help students further explore careers in the film industry.
2. Have a filmmaking professional meet with your students in person or via video call so he or she can tell students more about film careers and answer questions in real time.

Related Questions to Explore:

- What skills do people in the film industry need to have? Which of these skills do you already possess? Which skills would you need to work on?
- Other than the careers of the role models, what other careers are in the film making industry? Where could you go to find more information about film industry careers?
- How can you prepare yourself for a career in filmmaking? What challenges do you think you might face?
- What are some ways that the career women in the video might have prepared themselves for a career in filmmaking?
- Many of the role models talked about using their imaginations and storytelling as part of their careers. Do these parts of a filmmaking career appeal to you? Why or why not? What other careers might also require the use of imagination and storytelling?



Ideas for Future Lessons/Activities Related to Careers in Filmmaking:

1. Considering a Film Writing Career: Comparing a Literary Work to Its Film Interpretation
2. Using Storyboards: Thinking Through Visual Storytelling
3. Conducting and Recording Interviews with Real Life Inspiring Women in the Film Industry
4. Working Together: Creating a Class Movie from Conception to Release
5. Peeking Behind the Scenes in Cinema: The Making of a Popular New Release
6. Technology in Movies: Using iMovie or Windows Movie Maker
7. Other Careers in Filmmaking: Who Makes Our Movies?