

# Becoming Biligual

In a global economy, the opportunities for bilingual workers abound. This activity will explore the opportunities for persons with skills in other languages.

**Related Subject**

Language Arts  
Social Studies  
Languages

**Grade Level**

6 - 8

**Concept**

Research

**Related Occupations**

Career Counselor, ESL Teacher, Interpreter

**Type of Activity**

Individual

**National Career Development Guidelines**

Create and manage a career plan that meets your career goals. (CM1)

**Materials/Supplies**

Computer with Internet access, paper, pen/pencil

**Activity**

- Ask each student to select a foreign language to research for this activity.
- Have them list ways their languages could be used in a work setting (communicating with co-workers, customers, etc.)
- Ask the students to explore career opportunities for bilingual workers in their language areas. See the Additional Resources section for some career areas. Searching the Internet is a good starting point for this activity.
- Have the students locate three job openings for someone who is bilingual. Ask them to explore the skills necessary for success in these positions. Have them write down the job description, education/training needed, and skills required for each position.
- Ask the students to prepare a summary of their findings.

**Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on their research and summaries.

**Additional Resources**

- Career areas for bilingual or multilingual persons include jobs with volunteer/service organizations (Peace Corps, United Nations, World Bank, etc.), teaching (foreign languages, English as a Second Language), international business/commerce, communications/ journalism, human services, health care, federal government, armed services, travel/tourism, translating/interpreting, and consulting.