

**Subject**

Social Studies  
Language Arts  
Information  
Literacy

**Concept**

Research

**Grade Level**

6 - 8

**National  
Career  
Guidelines****Competency  
VI**

Skills to locate,  
understand, and  
use career  
information

**Type of  
Activity**

Team Activity

**Related  
Occupations**

Geographer  
Researcher  
Travel Agent

## Discover America

Students will identify career opportunities in various geographic areas in the United States.

**Materials/Supplies**

Map of the United States, computer with Internet access, other resources for research, paper, pen/pencil

**Activity**

- On a map of the United States, divide the country into geographic regions for research of occupational opportunities.
- Divide the class into teams of three to four students according to the area of the country they are interested in researching.
- Assign each team a different section of the country to research to determine career opportunities in that region.
- Have the teams write letters to Chambers of Commerce to gather information about career opportunities from selected sites within these sections.
- Ask them to also use the Internet or visit the library to obtain information about their region and the industries characteristic to that area.
- Have the teams compile or organize their findings in a written report.
- Ask the teams make an oral presentation to the class and suggest how findings may be used in decision making for their own career.
- Have each student decide upon a region which most interests him/her and write a paper on the decisions which brought about his/her selection of that region.

Option: Instead of using regions within the United States, have the teams research various countries throughout the world.

## **Evaluation**

Students will be evaluated on their research, team reports and presentations, team participation, and decision papers.