How Am I Ever Going To Use This?

Why do I have to take this class? How will I ever use this? These questions are commonly asked by students. This activity will describe how education relates to the selection of college majors, entry into the job market, and the need for further training.

Materials/Supplies
Computer, OKCIS program, Occupational Outlook Handbook, paper, pen/pencil, poster board, art supplies

Activity
Have students look up a particular school subject (such as math, science, English) by selecting "Occupations" located under "Occupation and Employment." Click "Search" and type in a high school subject. If their list has a limited number of occupations, check "Full Text Search."

Ask the students to read at least two of those occupational descriptions and list the subject area skills that are needed for that occupation.

Example: Math – Electrician - Reading blueprints and visualizing objects in three dimensions.

Have the students pretend they are a teacher of their selected subject. They must recruit students for their class, so they must advertise their subject. Have them write and illustrate advertisements for their subject, describing the benefits of learning that particular subject. All the ads must reflect how the subject will help students in the "real world." Students may use the OKCIS program and the Occupational Outlook Handbook for ideas on "selling" their subject. No false advertising is allowed.

Set up an area for the students to display their ads. Split the class into two to four groups and have the groups display their ads on a specific day. Allow the rest of the class to visit the displays and ask questions about the ads. When questioned about their ad, students must show solid evidence to substantiate why they advertised as they did.

Evaluation
Students will be evaluated on their research and skills lists, creativity and accuracy of their ads, their ad presentations, and the reasoning and research behind the ads.

Additional Resources OKCIS program is available from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, 800/654-4502 or can be ordered on-line at <www.okcareertech.org/cimc>.