

## Watershed Experience Lesson 5:

# STEM Career Day

**ACTIVITY TYPE:** *Classroom Presentations*

**AUDIENCE:** *High School*

**TIME FRAME:** *1.5 hours*

### SUMMARY:

*A mid-series break gives students a chance to think about what they've been learning and how it relates to future studies and careers. They will meet scientists and professionals to put a face on the work being done in their watershed.*

### MATERIALS:

*None, just note taking materials for students who want them*

### PREPARE AHEAD:

*Find local people to invite to the career day. Consider including biologists, ecologists, environmental scientists, environmental engineers, land managers, professors, foresters, politicians, etc. Connect with local organizations to point you in the right direction. You can reach out to state and municipal environmental departments, land trusts, watershed organizations, environmental engineering firms and colleges.*

### PROCEDURE:

*You can set up your career day in several ways, depending on the number of students and guest*

*speakers you have.*

- 1. Presentation style: This classic format works if presenters want to show slides or attend remotely.*
- 2. Circle style: Students and speakers sit in a circle, and speakers take turns presenting. This style helps encourage questions and conversations and is suitable for small groups.*
- 3. Tabling style: For large groups with multiple classes, or even a school-wide event, station guests at tables and have students visit conference-style.*

## BACKGROUND:

*A career day will encourage students to explore the many ways they can be involved in environmental protection.*

*While this is called a STEM career fair, be sure to emphasize that not all jobs in environmental protection are in STEM. Political advocacy, ecological art, and education are some examples of these types of careers. Environmental groups also need accounting, HR, marketing, and fundraising. Remind students about non-career ways to support their watersheds, such as volunteering, joining clubs, or enjoying hobbies.*