**Student Guide: Healthy, Wealthy and Wise During COVID-19: Essential Jobs**

A Lesson in:

* Jobs
* Salary
* Scarcity

During the current COVID-19 shut-downs, many people have either lost their jobs or are working from home. Some workers have been deemed essential. Take for example, the healthcare workers, who are tirelessly helping people who have fallen victim to the virus. In this activity, we will use the article on this post *Cities differ on who's essential, who's not.*

**Before Reading:**

1. Consider the title of the article: *Cities differ on who's essential, who's not.*Why do you think cities might differ in their assessments of which workers are essential? Predict some of the city workers that you think are deemed essential during the COVID-19 shutdown.

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**During Reading:**

1. While you read, record which workers are deemed essential.

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1. Take notes to compare and contrast Tampa, St. Pete, and Clearwater.

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| Tampa | St. Pete’s | Clearwater |
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**After Reading:**

1. Which workers were deemed essential? What were the differences and similarities among the cities?

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1. Why were some people given more money than others?

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1. What changes in the labor market created these changes in salary?

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1. Why do you think some people have lost jobs? What else did you learn?

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**Extension**

**Extension:**Many of the jobs that were deemed essential are people with skilled trades.  There are many different jobs people can do that don't necessarily require a college degree. Many of these jobs require certifications or on-the-job training. Sometimes people just apply to college without a future job in mind.  Check out the [Career Cluster infographic](http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5652/urlt/CareerClusterInfographics.pdf" \t "_blank) to learn more about different jobs and careers. What did you find?

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Now, visit [Florida Shines.org](https://www.floridashines.org/find-a-career/plan-your-future" \t "_blank) to plan your future. When you find some jobs that look interesting, visit [ONetOnline.org](https://www.onetonline.org/find/" \t "_blank) to conduct research on job options. What skills are required?

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What education is required?

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Which jobs match things you like?

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How much can you make? 

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Use the PACED decision-making model to evaluate different jobs. Choose four different alternatives. Evaluate those alternatives, based on criteria important to you.

