

Lesson 8

Note to teacher:

This lesson requires students to fill out a daily schedule. You may choose to omit this assignment and use the discussion questions from Lesson 7 instead.

Materials Needed:

Copies of the Lesson 8 worksheet

Objectives:

1. Students will hear a short vignette about a career in Industrial and Engineering Systems, and then will participate in a critical thinking discussion.
2. Each student will continue to explore the skills they have related to the skills their career interest requires.

Evaluation:

- Each student will make a daily planner entry with the job schedule of the Project Engineer for the day described in the vignette.
- Each student will make a daily planner entry for a schedule of a day they would have in their career interest by filling in activities.

Instruction:

1. Hand out the Lesson 8 Worksheet to the students. Ask them to fill out the daily time schedule in the first section of the worksheet for the Project Engineer as they listen to the vignette that follows.

A Day in the Life of Eric Landers

Eric is the Project Engineer for a commercial construction company in Jacksonville. In the summer he works long hours because it is the peak building season. On this sunny summer morning, he arrives at the office at 7:00am. Grabbing a cup of coffee, he makes his way to his cubicle where his desk is located. The first order of business is to update his “To Do” list and check his messages and email. This morning there are messages from the architect, the crew foreman, and the project’s site manager. Eric spends an hour returning calls and solving problems. He sets up a meeting for 2:00pm with the site manager.

The next 3 hours are spent reviewing and tracking submittals for equipment, supplies, transportation, and new projects. All the information gets entered into a computer database that keeps track of all the project costs. This project is to build a Fred Meyer store.

At 11:00am he stands up, stretches and heads to the conference room for the Engineers meeting. Each person at the meeting updates the group on the progress of their current project. Eric is pleased to report that things are going smoothly and, barring any problems, they should come in under budget. As the meeting ends an hour later, Eric is planning his afternoon.

On the way to the project site, Eric stops and grabs a quick lunch. He arrives at the building site at around 12:45. The owner of the new building stops by for a tour of the site at 1:00pm, so Eric

shows him around and discusses problems and changes with him for almost an hour while taking notes on his clipboard.

Just as the owner leaves, Jack, the site manager, comes over for their 2:00pm. Joking good-naturedly, they walk over to the construction trailer and get down to business. Jack has a list of questions from the field crew for the architect. Eric records all of the questions and they brainstorm solutions to some of the problems. Then they go out to the construction area and Jack points out some of the features of the building that are falling behind because of material delivery delays. Eric makes a note to call the supplier.

By 3:30pm, Eric is hard at work on his cell phone and laptop computer in the trailer. He calls the supplier to check on the delayed building materials and relays the message to Jack that they will be delivered at nine the next morning. Eric also writes up the questions for the architect and calls them in. When the work crews leave at 4:30pm, he leads the foreman's meeting in the area of the new building that will eventually become the sporting goods department. Several foremen express concerns about specific workers and Eric makes a note to check the personnel files at the main office. They plan the next steps of the building process and assign crews to each job. Eric reminds them that the construction company president is coming to the site tomorrow and to keep things cleaned up as much as possible. They end the meeting at 5:30pm and the foremen leave.

Eric heads back to the main office to drop off paperwork, make the last phone calls, and regroup for tomorrow. He finally leaves to go home at 7:00pm.

2. Briefly discuss the Project Engineer career using the questions below:

- Are his hours of work flexible?
- Does Eric have people that work for him?
- How much responsibility does Eric have?
- Does Eric work by himself or with other people?
- Does Eric work indoors or outdoors?
- Is the job physically stressful?
- What kind of appearance does Eric have to have?
- Does he do the same thing every day or is every day different?
- What kind of education would a person need to have Eric's job?
- Is there any special training that a person would need for this job?
- Does Eric get to go home every day?

3. Ask students to complete the next section of the Lesson 8 Worksheet by setting up their preferred work schedule for their chosen career. What could a day in the life of their career look like?