



# **CALM 20**

**Exploring Career Diversity  
In The Forest Sector**

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# FORESTRY: A CAREER WITH MANY BRANCHES

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Careers within a single sector can be more diverse than students might think. The forest sector, for example, appeals to people with varying interests and skills:

- Foresters are responsible for sustainability planning.
- Wildlife biologists monitor animal populations and habitat.
- Heavy equipment operators harvest and transport trees.
- Mill employees make products that we use every day.
- Skilled trades, engineering, and chemistry professionals work side by side to keep this innovative industry running.

## Alberta Curricular Outcomes

- **C1:** Examine components of effective career development as a lifelong process.
  - Relate present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.
- **C4:** Develop strategies to deal with the transition from senior high school to post-secondary education/ training and/or the world of work.
  - Build one or more plans for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.
- **C5:** Develop a quality career portfolio.
  - Assess a wide range of career possibilities.

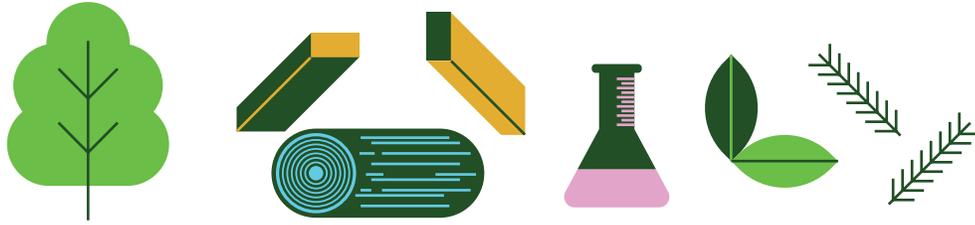
- **C6:** Investigate the range of learning opportunities in post-secondary programs, on-the-job training, and apprenticeship training programs.
  - Develop a network of information about a wide range of possibilities.
  - Assess the range of possibilities, their costs, and the available assistance and funding

## Resources

This toolkit is designed to give teachers the flexibility to use as an online resource, a hard-copy resource, or both. It includes a variety of activities, including options for individual study or group work.

Students may download the Student Activity Handouts on the Work Wild website: [workwild.ca](http://workwild.ca) (in the *Classroom Resources* section). Alternatively, the student handouts are provided at the back of this Toolkit so they can be photocopied and handed out.

**Forestry is a career with many branches.  
Let's explore...**



## LESSON PLAN OVERVIEW

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### Lesson Plan 1: My Career – Skills, Interests, and Values

With so many potential careers out there, where does a high school student even start? This lesson begins with a discussion on the importance of choosing a career that aligns with one's skills, interests, and values. Students are asked to identify what they are good at (skills), what they are passionate about (interests), and their priorities in life (values).

### Lesson Plan 2: My Career – Assessing Career Possibilities

As a sector with many branches, forestry serves as an excellent platform for teaching about the diversity of job choices, allowing students to identify those that align with their particular skills, interests, and values.

The lesson begins with three short videos that cover key career opportunities within the forest sector. Students then take an online quiz that generates possible forestry careers of interest, based on each student's responses. Students then choose a career from the list to explore further in the next lesson.

### Lesson Plan 3: My Career – Action Plan

Using the career chosen in Lesson 2, students will be asked to put together a 3 to 5 year career action plan. This plan will require students to research the paths they would need to take to arrive at their chosen careers.

*What education is necessary? How long will it take? What will it cost? What grants, scholarships, and sources of funding are available?* Students learn the importance of planning as they make the transition from high school to career.

# Lesson Plan 1: My Career – Skills, Interests, and Values

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## Course

CALM 20: Career Exploration – Forest Sector

## Time

25 minutes

## Assessment

Formative: Review Activity 1 Handout to see that students have related present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.

## Alberta Curricular Outcome

**C1:** Examine components of effective career development as a lifelong process.

- Relate present daily living skills and experiences to career aspirations.

## Materials

- Toolkit Activity 1 Handout - Students can either download this handout online or work from a hard copy. A blank handout is included at the end of this package for printing/photocopying.

## Activity

1. Begin the lesson with a class discussion on the differences between skills, interests, and values.
2. Using the Activity 1 Handout, have students reflect upon and determine their skills, interests, and values in relation to a future career.

# Lesson Plan 2:

## My Career – Assessing Career Possibilities

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### Course

CALM 20: Career Exploration – Forest Sector

### Time

Videos: 12 minutes (3 x 3:40 each)

Career Quiz and Questions: 20-30 minutes

### Assessment

Formative: See that students have assessed a range of career possibilities and settled on one to explore further.

### Alberta Curricular Outcome

**C5:** Develop a quality career portfolio.

- Assess a wide range of career possibilities.

### Materials

- Work Wild Video Series (*Alberta has a Wild Side*)  
[youtube.com/watch?v=U3irdqmuki0&list=PL9bTO1i2dQtwcC6o-8lxSN5ml-2MmLyf9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U3irdqmuki0&list=PL9bTO1i2dQtwcC6o-8lxSN5ml-2MmLyf9)
- Work Wild Career Quiz  
[workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz](https://workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz)
- Toolkit Activity 2 Handout - Students can either download this handout online or be provided with hard copies. A blank handout is included at the end of this package for printing/photocopying.

### Activity

1. Show the class the three videos in the series *Alberta has a Wild Side* to expose them to the variety of career branches in Alberta's forest sector.
2. Have students visit [workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz](https://workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz) and take the four question Career Quiz. When they have completed the quiz, a profile card will be revealed that shows six to eight career options. For even more career options, they can click "View All" and explore the complete listings under the four main career categories—The Explorer, The Communicator, The Investigator, and The Builder.
3. Have students read through the details on each of their results and pick the one that appeals most to them.  
  
If none of these careers appeal to a student, he or she may browse through the 42 job profiles listed in the Career List above the quiz. There are six career categories (Engineering, Forestry, Office, Operator, Sciences, and Trades), with several career options listed under each. At the end of Activity 2, every student must choose a career for further exploration in Activity 3.
4. Have students fill out Activity 2 Handout.

# Lesson Plan 3: My Career – Action Plan

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## Course

CALM 20: Career Exploration – Forest Sector

## Time

45 minutes

## Assessment

Summative: Review Activity 3 Handout to ensure the student has:

- Gathered information about achieving a specific career goal;
- Assessed a particular career goal, its costs, and the available assistance and funding; and
- Built a career action plan for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.

## Alberta Curricular Outcomes

**C4:** Develop strategies to deal with the transition from senior high school to post-secondary education/training and/or the world of work.

- Build one or more plans for a transition period of 3 to 5 years.

**C6:** Investigate the range of learning opportunities around post-secondary programs, on-the-job training, and apprenticeship training programs.

- Develop a network of information about a wide range of possibilities.
- Assess the range of possibilities, their costs, and the available assistance and funding.

## Materials

- Work Wild Career Profiles  
[workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz](http://workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz)
- Toolkit Activity 3 Handout - Students can either download this handout online or be provided with hard copies. A blank handout is included at the end of this package for printing/photocopying.

## Activity

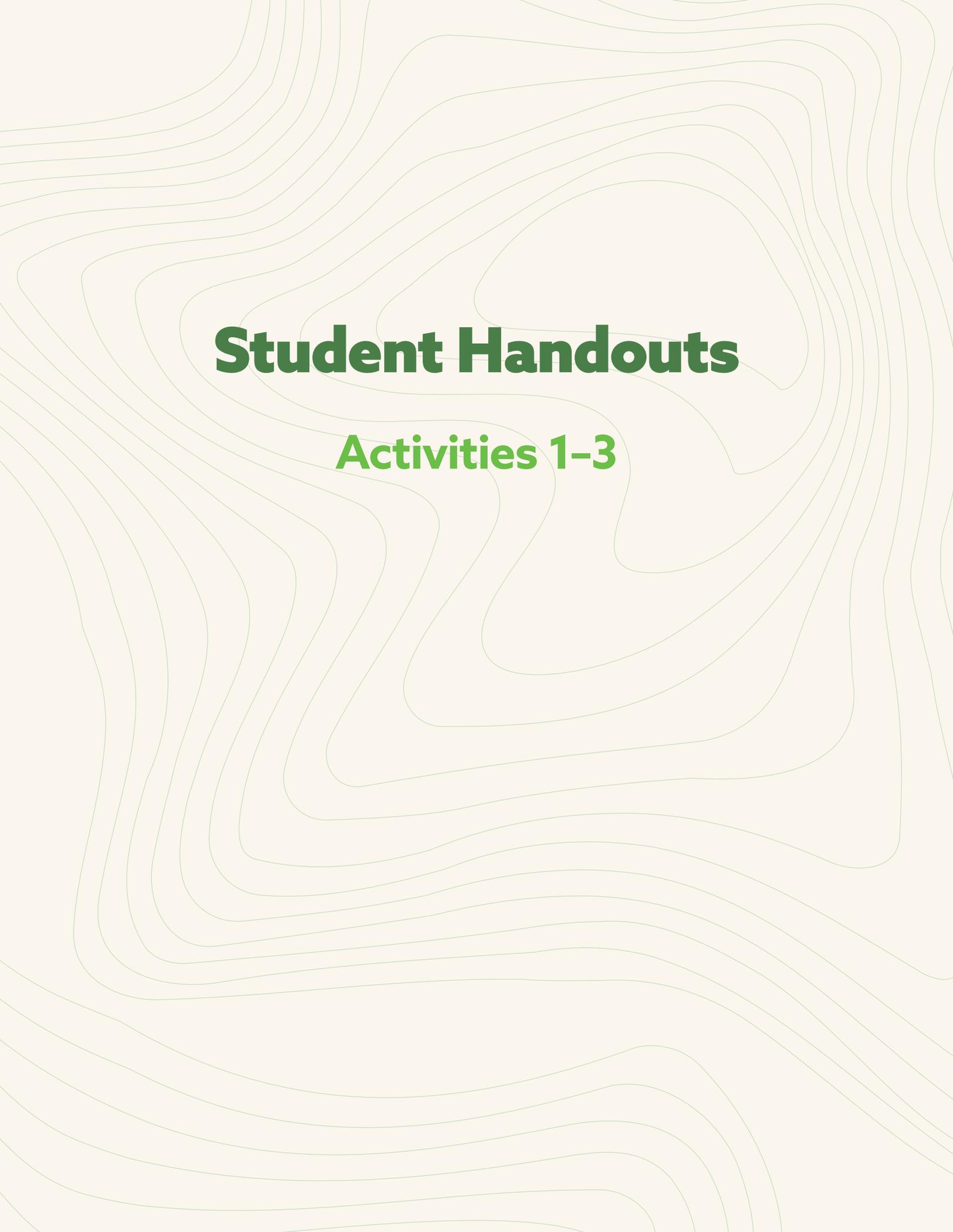
Using the Activity 3 Handout, have students take their chosen career profile (from Activity 2) to create a career action plan.

Students can use these links and other online resources to create their career action plans:

- [workwild.ca/scholarships](http://workwild.ca/scholarships)
- [workwild.ca/jobpostings](http://workwild.ca/jobpostings)
- [alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta](http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta)

## Plans must include:

- Training/education required
- Potential training/education assistance (scholarships, bursaries, student loans, etc.)
- Experience required
- Key points to highlight on résumé
- Timeline for reaching goal



# **Student Handouts**

## **Activities 1-3**

## Activity 1 Handout

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# My Career – Skills, Interests, and Values

### What are you wild about?

Now that you're in high school, people are probably asking, "What career do you plan on going into?" It's a tough question. There are so many choices. Where do you begin?

The best place to start is by considering what you're good at. What you love to do. And what inspires you. Answer the following questions. Be honest and sincere with your answers. There's no need to be modest!

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1

We ALL have skills and strengths. Some people are very tech-savvy. Some are math geniuses. Some are brilliant communicators. Some are natural-born leaders. Others are incredibly talented at working with their hands.

**What skills do you possess? List at least two.**

***Option:** If you're too shy or stuck to answer yourself, ask a friend what strengths you have that they admire. You may be surprised by the special traits they identify!*

# Activity 1 Handout Continued

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2

No one wants to do things that don't interest them. This is especially important when considering a career you'll be working at for 40 hours a week! Think about what interests you. For example, do you have a passion for technology? Do you like animals? Or maybe mechanics? Are you the indoors type or do you enjoy being outside in nature?

**List at least two of your interests.**

*Hint: Maybe you're into sports. Rather than list "sports" as an answer, what is it about sports that interests you? (e.g., Keeping physically active, being part of a team, etc.)*

3

As we learn about the world around us, we develop values – these include our beliefs and priorities in life. If our values don't align with our job, we may find ourselves feeling conflicted and unhappy.

It is important to understand your values when deciding what type of career you will pursue. Some people value having time to see their friends and families regularly. Some place importance on working in a sustainable industry. Others seek opportunities for professional growth and financial reward in their job.

**List at least two things that you value in a career.**

## Activity 2 Handout

# My Career – Assessing Career Possibilities

### Discover your wild side.

We've all taken quizzes on social media... like, "Which Star Wars character would you be?"

Take this short (10-question) quiz to get some ideas on possible forest sector careers that might suit you.

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#### Step 1:

**Take the short (four question) Career Quiz:**

[workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz](http://workwild.ca/getting-started/career-quiz)

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#### Step 2:

**From the list of career options suggested to you, pick one you think you might enjoy.** Once you have completed the quiz, six to eight career options will appear based on your answers.

Read through the details on each and pick the one that appeals to you the most. If none of the suggested careers appeal to you, click "View All" to explore the all the job profiles under the four main career categories—The Explorer, The Communicator, The Investigator, and The Builder.

Your selected career choice will be used to complete the rest of Activity 2 and Activity 3.

## Activity 2 Handout Continued

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# My Career – Assessing Career Possibilities

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### Step 3:

1. What drew you to this career?

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2. What skills are required? Do these match skills on your list? Or perhaps ones you may have missed?

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3. Which of your interests does it appeal to?

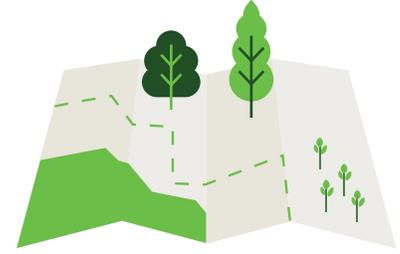
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4. In what ways does it align with your values?

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## Activity 3 - Handout

# My Career – Action Plan



### What's your path to becoming wildly successful?

You've found a career branch that has attracted your interest. So, what route do you need to take to get there?

**Using the career you chose earlier (based on the Career Quiz), create a career action plan.**

Develop a 3 to 5 year action plan outlining the steps necessary to pursue this career. Include the following:

#### • Training/education required

- What post-secondary or career-training program will you need to enroll in?
- What universities, colleges, or technical institutes offer the program?
- How long will the program take to complete?
- What does it cost? (tuition, etc.)

#### • Financial assistance for training/education

- What scholarships, bursaries, or student loans are available to help you offset tuition/program costs?
- How much money is available?
- What requirements do you need to meet to qualify? (grades, etc.)
- What are other potential sources of income for tuition?

#### • Required work experience and/or volunteer experience

- What experience would help you stand out as an applicant for a job in this field?

#### • Key points to highlight on résumé

- What relevant skills, interests, and values would make you a good candidate for this career?

#### • Timeline

- How long will it take to get this type of job?  
Factors to consider include:

- Length of the training program
- Time required to gain work experience (e.g., apprenticeship program, volunteering, etc.)
- Frequency of job vacancies

**For guidance, use the following links.** Or see what other online resources are available to create your career action plan:

- [workwild.ca/scholarships](https://workwild.ca/scholarships)
- [workwild.ca/jobpostings](https://workwild.ca/jobpostings)
- [alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta](https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta)