

## Your World of Work Timeline

**Overview:** Understanding how an occupation has evolved over time may help you secure a job.

Consider this: it is important for an aircraft designer to understand the history of flight, the different methods used to fly, why some methods worked and others didn't, and the people who made a difference in modern aircraft design.

If a person interviewing for a job as an aircraft designer didn't know who Orville Wright was, it might raise doubt as to whether this person would be a good choice for the job. But, if the person knew all about the history of flight, it would show the interviewer the candidate was knowledgeable about his/her chosen field of work.

**Step 1:** Identify a career that interests you the most.

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**Step 2:** Create a timeline of the history of your career choice that lists the facts you discovered while investigating the areas below.

1. Discover the age, culture, and time period which showed the first evidence of this occupation.
  2. List any tools initially used to perform this job early on. Include the different tools used throughout the history of this occupation including the present day.
  3. Name important people who have significantly influenced this occupation and list the year(s) their involvement affected the change. It may include the inventor of a tool, a politician who changed a law, a scientist whose discovery led to a new field, etc.
  4. Label the different points on your timeline where the education or training needed to achieve your career was different. The date does not need to be exact. For example, farming required no schooling for the first farmers. Then, an elementary education became recommended. Today, there are college majors specializing in agriculture and farming methods. If the education level has not changed, state this on your timeline and explain why there has not been a change.
  5. Include a future prediction. When in the future do you believe another major change may occur and what do you believe the change might be? For example, farming may occur on the Moon or under the ocean.
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**Step 3:** Write a brief essay about the most interesting thing you discovered; why it was the most interesting; and how the information you gained may help you in the future.