

OPENING YOUR EYES TO THE WORLD

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WHERE DO I WANT TO GO? WHAT DO I WANT TO BE?

## PLANNING FOR A DREAM CAREER? GEOGRAPHY CAN TAKE YOU THERE!

As you progress through your schooling, you will begin to make important decisions about what you might like to do as a career. This will bring many questions: what type of job might I like to do? What type of training is needed to get there? What subjects do I need to take at high school to help me enter this career?

# As you consider your future, one subject you should consider taking is Geography.

*Why?* Geography provides you with a broad training and education to enter a range of diverse careers including business and administration, cartography, tourism, planning and more.

*Need more convincing?* Big organisations like Metservice and Statistics New Zealand need geographers to bring information to the public.

Local governments and the national government need geographers to advise them on things such as town planning, environmental science and transport.

Businesses often need the help of geographers when deciding where to locate themselves or how to lessen their impact on the environment. This might mean working for a particular company or as a consultant.

## So what then, is geography?

Geography is the study of the earth's places, peoples, environments and societies. Geography seeks to understand the relationships and impacts between people and the environment through space and time. There are two main types of geography: human geography and physical geography.

Human geography is concerned with human existence. How are people distributed across the planet? How do we use land, water and the atmosphere? How do we develop places and spaces and how we sustain the planet for future generations? Human geographers work in development agencies, urban and regional planning, transportation, tourism and eco-tourism, real-estate and international relations.

Physical geography looks at patterns of physical processes such as climate, hazards, soils, fresh water, oceans, forests and landforms. Physical geographers are interested in how elements of the environment are changing, what effects our impacts on the environment are having and how we use or abuse natural resources.

Geography can teach you a wide range of skills that can be used in many different careers.

## These include:

- The ability to recognise and observe spatial patterns and processes in reality
- Being proficiency in communication
- The ability to read and understand maps, graphs, charts
- The ability to undertake scientific research
- Being able to engage in decision-making and problem solving skills
- Having a knowledge of how to use statistics and mathematics
- Being able to use computers to analyse electronic information





## How do I know if I want to study geography?

Score yourself against the following statements (1 = strongly disagree, 3 = unsure, 5 = strongly agree). Keep a record of your score so you can evaluate yourself at the end.

- 1. I enjoy learning about places.
- 2. Do you like to see places and features on maps?
- 3. I choose the window seat when I travel in taxis, cars, buses, trains etc. so that I can observe things on my journey.
- 4. I am interested to hear news about what happens in other countries.
- 5. I like to work outside, away from an office.
- 6. I am interesting in finding ways to solve problems.
- 7. I enjoy asking questions about the world in which I live.
- 8. I like to see how different things connect with each other.
- 9. I enjoy collecting and analysing information about the world in which I live.
- 10. I like to see the "big picture" showing people and places are interconnected.
- 11. I am concerned about a declining environment.
- 12. I find it interesting to know how people can reduce their impact on the environment.

Add the score from each of your responses and compare with the table below

< 15	Hmmm, perhaps you need to think about some other career possibility
15 to 30	You show a low interest in geography and should think about another careers
30 to 40	You are not really convinced although show a great deal of interest in being a geographer.
	Re-look at where you have scored at 4 or 5 and examine careers that relate more directly to
	these statements
40 to 50	Good – you should consider a career in geography. There is lots that interests you.
50 to 60	You have a bright future as a geographer!



## Are you interested in where you live?

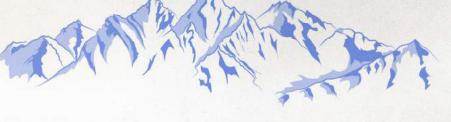
- -Planner
- Surveyor
- Local Government Services worker
- Estate Agent
- Town Planner
- Transport Officer
- Construction or Property Lawyer

#### Want to work with people and affect lives?

- Geography Teacher
- Social Worker
- Youth and Community Worker
- Emergency Services Manager
- Further Education or University Lecturer
- Museum Explainer
- Exhibition designer and curator
- Health Education Campaigner
- Advertising Executive
- Market Research Analyst
- Public Policy Research
- Marketing
- Public Relations Officer for a company

## Want to discover new places?

- Expedition Leader
- Travel Agent
- Exhibitions Coordinator
- Leisure Centre Manager
- Heritage Site Manager
- Eco Tour Guide
- Tourist Information Officer
- Travel Writer/Journalist



## So what kinds of jobs have a career with Geography?

## Do you care about the future of our planet?

- Environmental Campaign Organiser
- Forestry Manager
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Engineer
- Landscape Architect
- Pollution Analyst
- Cycle Route Planner
- Conservation Worker
- Environmental Health Officer
- Architect or Urban Planner for sustainable projects
- Environmental impact officer for oil or quarrying company

## Fascinated by maps and software?

- GIS Specialist (Geographical Information Systems)
- Location Analyst for a supermarket firm
- Cartographer
- Surveyor
- Military GIS Specialist
- Remote Sensing Analyst
- Mapping Software Designer
- Computer Aided Design Technician
- Aerial Surveyor

## Interested in the economy & finance?

#### - Financial Risk Assessor

- Transport and logistics manager
- Retail Management
- Management Consultant
- Commercial Sales Manager
- Economic Adviser and Analyst
- Buyer for a company
- Location Analyst

## Interested in Global Issues?

- Aid Worker
- Charity Fundraiser
- Charity Officer
- Armed Forces
- HIV Education Officer
- Human Rights Officer
- International Charity Fundraising
- Refugee and Asylum Adviser
- Economic Adviser and Analyst

## Fascinated by the natural environment?

### - Coastal Engineer

- Soil Conservationist
- Hydrologist
- Earth Scientist
- Weather Forecaster
- Weather Presenter
- Hazard Prediction and Disaster Manager
- Flood Protection Manager
- Pollution Analyst
- Risk Assessor
- Water Supply Coordinator