

Penguins of High Performance Computing

Goal:

This lesson gives students a chance to hear about how **high performance computing** is presented to the public and to get a glimpse of a few applications of it, in particular to the students' desired career fields.

Materials:

- Instructor computer, connected to projector, speakers, and the Internet.
- Computer connected to the Internet, 1 per student.
- Something to write with, 1 per student.

Activity 1:

1. The instructor shows the following video (search YouTube for Dreamworks Supercomputing): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGSRvV9u32M>

Questions:

1. What is **High Performance Computing**?
2. What are some of the reasons people use **supercomputers**?
3. What career do you want to have? In what ways do you think that career could use high performance computing?

Activity 2:

1. Each student goes to a search engine and researches how **supercomputers** or **high performance computing** are used in their desired career field, or to research more about what they learned in the penguin video. The student takes notes and prepares to talk about it in front of the class.
2. The instructor calls upon a few volunteers to present what they researched.