

Wave the Card



Concept
Learning Skills



Length
10-15 Minutes

Inquiry Prompts

- How are some careers the same?
- How are similar careers different?
- What kind of career sounds the most interesting to you (e.g. one where you work in a hospital, work with children, etc.)?

Instructions

In this activity, students demonstrate what they already know about careers by choosing a career card that matches a description. As well, they gain a basic understanding of how some careers can share certain characteristics like workplaces, tasks, and skills required.

- 1 Pass out the [career cards](#) to students individually, or have students work in groups.
- 2 Explain to students that you're going to give a series of clues. Students who have the career card that answers the clue should hold up their card.
- 3 Choose some of the following clues to read to students. Wave the card of someone who:
 - Works in a hospital
 - Works with children
 - Works with tools (like a saw, wrench, or hammer)
 - Works with money
 - Helps people in trouble
 - Makes something creative
 - Works outside
 - Works in a school
 - Works with computers
- 4 Discuss with students all the careers match the clue. Can they think of any other careers that are similar?

Message to students: Some careers share a task or goal. For example, both police officers and firefighters keep people safe. Others may work in the same place. For instance, both a cashier and a manager may work in a grocery store. And lots of careers require the same skills. A teacher and a politician both have to be good at communication to make sure people understand them. Can you think of other ways that careers can be similar?

Materials Required

- [Wave the Card career cards](#)
(one set per student or group)

Artifacts

None for this activity

Wave the Card - Career Cards



Nurse

Nurses take care of patients and help them get better.



Roofer

Roofers build and fix the roofs on homes and other buildings.



Coast Guard

The Coast Guard watches over oceans, lakes, and rivers across the country.



Florist

Florists are artists who work with flowers and plants.



Medical Secretary

Medical secretaries do paperwork and greet clients in hospitals and medical offices.



Police Officer

Police officers keep people safe. They make sure people obey the law.



Bicycle Mechanic

Bicycle mechanics fix and tune up bikes.



Software Engineer

Software engineers research, design, and test computer software.



Elementary School Teacher

Elementary school teachers teach students from kindergarten to 6th grade.



Money Manager

Money managers control and invest large amounts of money for big companies.



Beekeeper

Beekeepers look after hives of bees.



Crossing Guard

Crossing guards help kids safely cross streets on their way to and from school.

Wave the Card - Career Cards



Librarian

Librarians manage collections of books and other resources.



Set Designer

Set designers create the sets for TV shows, films, and plays.



Fundraiser

Fundraisers raise money and awareness for all kinds of causes.



Welder

Welders heat up and connect metal pieces. They weld metal for buildings, cars, bridges, and more.



Nanny

Nannies look after children in people's homes.



Photographer

Photographers take pictures that tell stories or record events.



IT Support Specialist

IT support specialists are experts at handling computers and networks.



Principal

Principals make sure schools run smoothly.



Bank Teller

Bank tellers help customers with their money at a bank.



Firefighter

Firefighters put out fires and deal with other emergencies.



Farmer

Farmers raise and sell crops and animals.



Family Physician

Family physicians are doctors who look after people of all ages.