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CAREER FIELDS

People work to earn a living. There are many different kinds of work. Let's look at six big career fields. They are about everyday life.



1. Environmental and Agricultural Systems → plants, animals, and nature
2. Communications and Information Systems → arts, movies, and production and computers and software
3. Industrial, Manufacturing, and Engineering Systems → building and making things
4. Health Sciences → health
5. Human Services and Resources → helping people and government
6. Business, Marketing, and Management → business, ads, and money

The first field is Environmental and Agricultural Systems. In this field, people work with plants, animals, and the environment. It's managing natural resources. Natural resources are the things found in nature: land, water, forests, and minerals.

Environmental and Agricultural Systems

- Do you like to eat? _____ Do you like to breathe? _____
Do you like to drink clean water? _____ Do you like lakes and streams? _____
Do you like parks? _____ Do you like forests? _____
Do you like animals? _____

The Game: Check the words that have to do with Environmental and Agricultural Systems.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> land | <input type="checkbox"/> water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> games | <input type="checkbox"/> forests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> copper and silver | <input type="checkbox"/> space ships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> parks and lakes | <input type="checkbox"/> farms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> crops and animals | <input type="checkbox"/> make-up |



What is the first big career field?

ENVIRONMENTAL AND AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

Environmental and Agricultural Systems is growing plants and animals. It's about natural resources. It's about food science: what makes up food.



Many students like to grow plants and raise animals. Future Farmers of America (FFA), 4-H, and other agricultural clubs are fun! Most schools have these clubs.

*FYI: Horticulture is growing plants for beauty and usefulness.
Cultivation is the planting, tending, or harvesting of crops or plants.*

A big part of finding the right career is knowing your interests.
Do you like animals? _____
Do you like flowers, trees, or other plants? _____
Do you have a pet? _____

Write a story about your pet or a pet you want.

The Game: Check the words that have to do with Environmental and Agricultural Systems.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> growing plants | <input type="checkbox"/> cultivation of crops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> managing a bank | <input type="checkbox"/> drawing cartoons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> caring for animals | <input type="checkbox"/> making dresses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> horticulture | <input type="checkbox"/> laying tile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> managing natural resources in forests | |



What is horticulture?

JOB OR CAREER

Happiness is finding the right career.

Find out more about a career that interests you:

- talk to people who work in the field
- use the library to read about the career
- use the Internet to read stories, research facts, and watch videos



Job or Career?

A job is work you do to earn a living. A job usually doesn't need a lot of education. A job may be temporary.

A career is your lifework. A career pays money, but the main reason you work in your career is because it's what you love. A career may require special training. Usually a person stays in the same career for many years.

Zane and Kai finished high school. They both got summer jobs at a wilderness park. They are laborers. They clear trails, fill in holes, dig ditches, and move supplies. It's hard work. Their team has a camp where they eat their meals. They sleep in tents. Zane loves being in the woods. He plans to apply for a full-time laborer job. He thinks he wants to work for the parks as a career. Kai likes camping, but manual labor is not fun for her. Kai likes computer work.

FYI: Manual labor is physical work done by people (not machines).

The Game: Read about Zane and Kai again. Answer the questions.

1. Zane and Kai do what kind of work? _____
2. Which teen is thinking about a career with the park service? _____
Why? _____
3. Which teen probably won't have a career as a park laborer? _____
Why? _____
4. Would you like to work as a laborer in a wilderness camp? _____
Why? _____



What is manual labor?

DOG WALKER PROFILE

You have to make money to live. But doing what you love is important too.

Ali is in school. He needs to make money. He also wants work experience. Ali loves animals. His dream career is working with animals. Ali thinks being a dog walker is the perfect job. In most places, dog walkers don't need a special license. Ali could set up a dog walking business, but he doesn't want to get a business license. He decided to work with Wagglers, a dog-walking company in his town.



Dog Walker Profile

Duties:

- Exercise clients' dogs every day
- Properly water the pets while exercising
- Use bags to clean up waste
- Manage your schedules and bookings
- Collect and record payments for services
- Obey all city and neighborhood regulations

Education:

- High school education preferred
- No on-the-job training available; experience working with dogs required
- Knowledge of animal first aid strongly preferred
- High school subjects that help: English, math, biology

Pay: Average to great

The Game: Answer the questions.

1. Would you like to be a dog walker? _____ Why? _____

2. What are some of the duties of a dog walker? _____

3. Do dog walkers need a college education? _____

4. Do dog walkers need a license? _____

5. What is Ali's dream career? _____

6. Why doesn't Ali want to set up a business?

PAYCHECK

Paychecks make most workers smile. It feels good to get paid. But, it's up to you to check your paycheck. Don't get cheated out of your money. Make sure everything is correct.

John Allen is a clerk. He works for City Home Healthcare (300 North St, Leander, TX 78641). John's address is 504 Oak Lane, Leander, TX 78641. John looked at his paycheck carefully. He noticed a huge mistake! Here is John's paycheck:

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| City Home Healthcare 300 North Street Leander, TX 78641 | Check Number: 526 Pay Date 03/10/ |
| PAY *** Six hundred and one dollar and one cent ***** | \$601.01 |
| To the order of Marco Garza 504 Oak Lane Leander, TX 78641 | <i>Sal Miller</i> |

If you see a mistake on your paycheck, don't cash the check. The first thing to do is find the right person to help you. Usually the right person isn't your boss. Try the payroll office or the human resources office.

When you start a job, you fill out a W-4 form. It determines the taxes that are taken out of your paycheck. In January, your employer will give you a W-2 form. The W-2 shows the money earned and tax totals for the past year. Keep your W-2. You must have this information to file your taxes.

The Game: Answer the questions.

1. What is the huge mistake on John's paycheck? _____

2. Is the date correct? _____ Use this year and write the correct date. _____
3. Is John's address correct? _____
4. Is John's employer's name and address correct? _____
5. Who signed John's paycheck? _____