

ELEMENTARY CAREER STUDIES

Teacher Notes

Elementary career studies emphasize career awareness and exploration – not career choice. Career exploration at the elementary school level should allow children to become more self-aware of their skills, abilities and interests and how those traits relate to future career goals. Integrating career conversations across the curriculum allows students to connect the classroom to the real world. The goal of elementary career studies is to provide:

- equal access to career exploration
- opportunities to explore interests, abilities, values and goals
- develop the mindset that learning is lifelong for any career they pursue

CAREER EXPLORATION CONTINUUM

PRIMARY GRADES

Students in kindergarten and 1st grade should be introduced to careers in their community. Students in the 2nd and 3rd grade can understand the similarities and differences between groups of careers making this an ideal time to introduce the [sixteen \(16\) career clusters](#). This organizational framework is important to future career development and understanding future career pathways. INTERMEDIATE GRADES

Rather than focusing on a career, students in the 4th and 5th grades should begin the process of self-discovery through exploring the knowledge, skills and working environments common to careers within the 16 clusters. The resource within this document, “Dig Deeper,” provides sample tasks that allow students to explore those skills and knowledge. The resource, “Is a Career in (*cluster*) for Me?” guides students to reflect to determine their interest in this cluster.

USING THIS DOCUMENT

These activities do not constitute a curriculum, rather they provide a variety of activities to be used within the context of a career studies program that spans K-5. Resources progress by grade level from kindergarten to 5th grade and may be modified to meet student needs. For each cluster, instructional routines may include:

- **Engage** students through videos, online activities, guest speakers or hands on activities
- **Explore** by using texts from the cluster book list as read alouds or part of the classroom library
- **Extend** learning by using resources from this document in learning centers, individual work or group projects

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks is given to the [Delaware Career Resource Network](#) and the [Labor Market and Career Information \(LMCI\) department of the Texas Workforce Commission](#) for granting permission to revise and include their resources in this document.

HUMAN SERVICES

Teacher Resource

Note: Careers in Human Services are divided into pathways. Listed below are some of the careers found in each pathway and range from entry level to those that require post-secondary training, certificates and/or degrees. This list serves only to build educator background knowledge. Students are not introduced to career pathways until the 6th–8th grade band.

Early Childhood Development and Services

People with careers in this pathway nurture and teach children. They provide services in child care centers, nursery schools, preschools, public schools, private households, family child care homes, and before- and after-school programs.

- Childcare Worker
- Childcare Facilities Director
- Parent Educator
- Preschool Teacher

Counseling and Mental Health

Counseling and mental health professionals help people manage personal, family and mental health issues. They also provide guidance related to education and career decisions. These services may be provided in hospitals, clinics, schools or private settings.

- Career Counselor
- Clinical Psychologist
- Sociologist
- Substance Abuse Counselor

Family and Community Services

Individuals with careers in this pathway help the homeless and those confined to their home due to illness. They counsel and care for emotionally disturbed individuals and those with physical and mental disabilities.

- Activities Coordinator
- Community Service Director
- Social Worker
- Volunteer Coordinator

Personal Care Services

Specialists in this pathway assist individuals with personal care, hair, skin and makeup needs, massage therapy and fitness training. Also included are funeral directors and attendants who provide services for grieving families.

- Barber or Cosmetologist
- Personal Trainer
- Funeral Director
- Massage Therapist

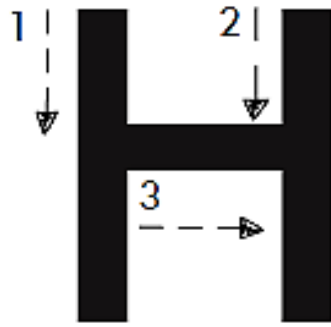
Consumer Services

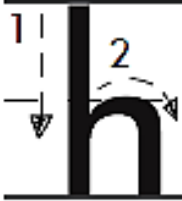
Specialists in consumer services assist individuals with decisions and problems relating to finance, real estate, insurance and consumer goods.

- Banker
- Credit Counselor
- Market Researcher
- Sales Consultant

Alphabet Letter Printing Worksheet

Practice writing each upper case and lower case letter on the lines below as shown on the sample letters. Then write the name of the occupation.





Hairdresser

Alphabet Letter Printing Worksheet

Practice writing each upper case and lower case letter on the lines below as shown on the sample letters. Then write the name of the occupation.





Preschool Teacher

Alphabet Letter Printing Worksheet

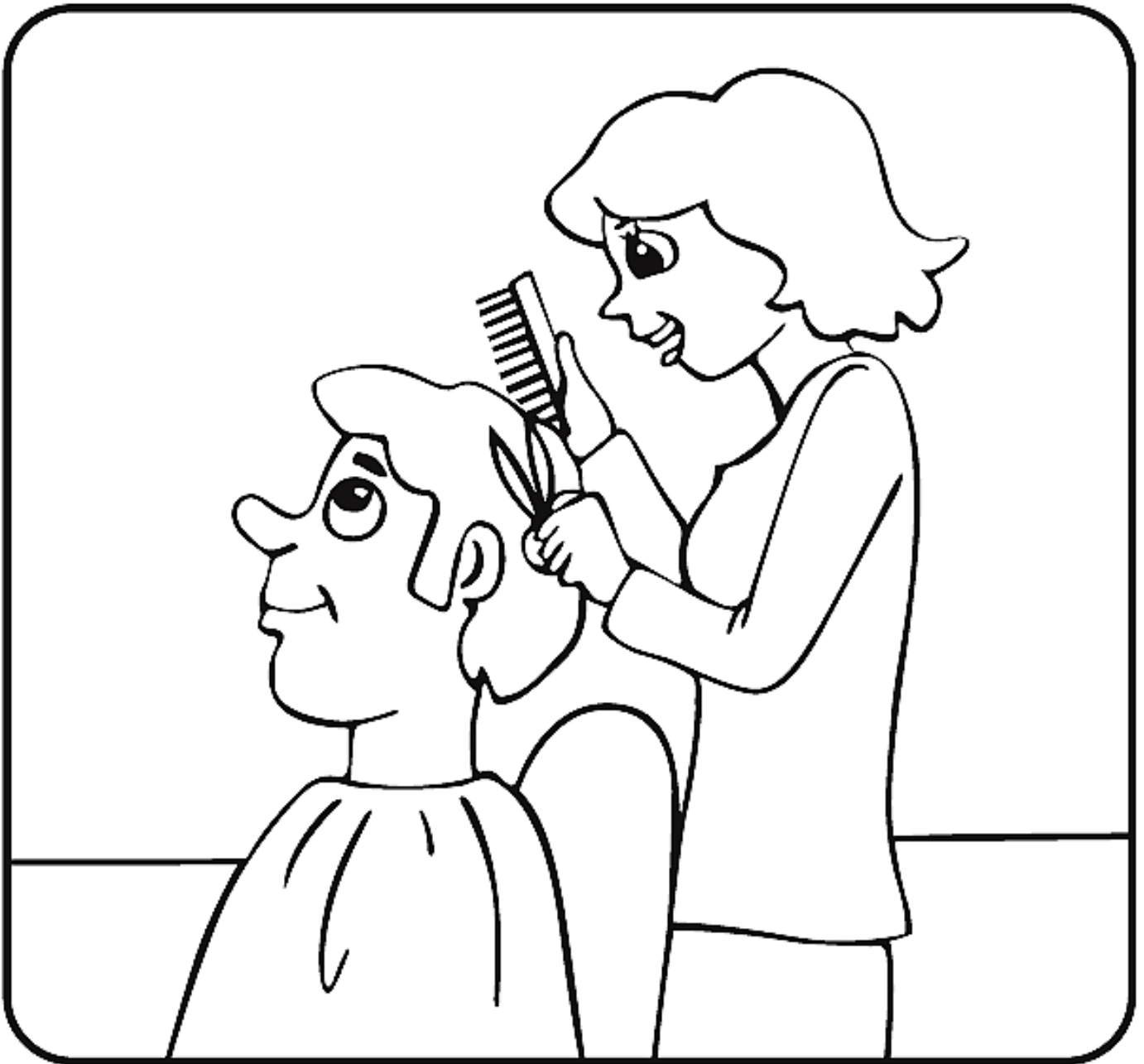
Practice writing each upper case and lower case letter on the lines below as shown on the sample letters. Then write the name of the occupation.





Counselor

BARBER



Barbers make people's hair look nice. They wash, cut and style hair. They also trim men's beards and moustaches.

MATCHING ACTIVITY

The words and pictures below are tools hair stylists use.
Draw a line to match the word to the correct picture.



brush

chair

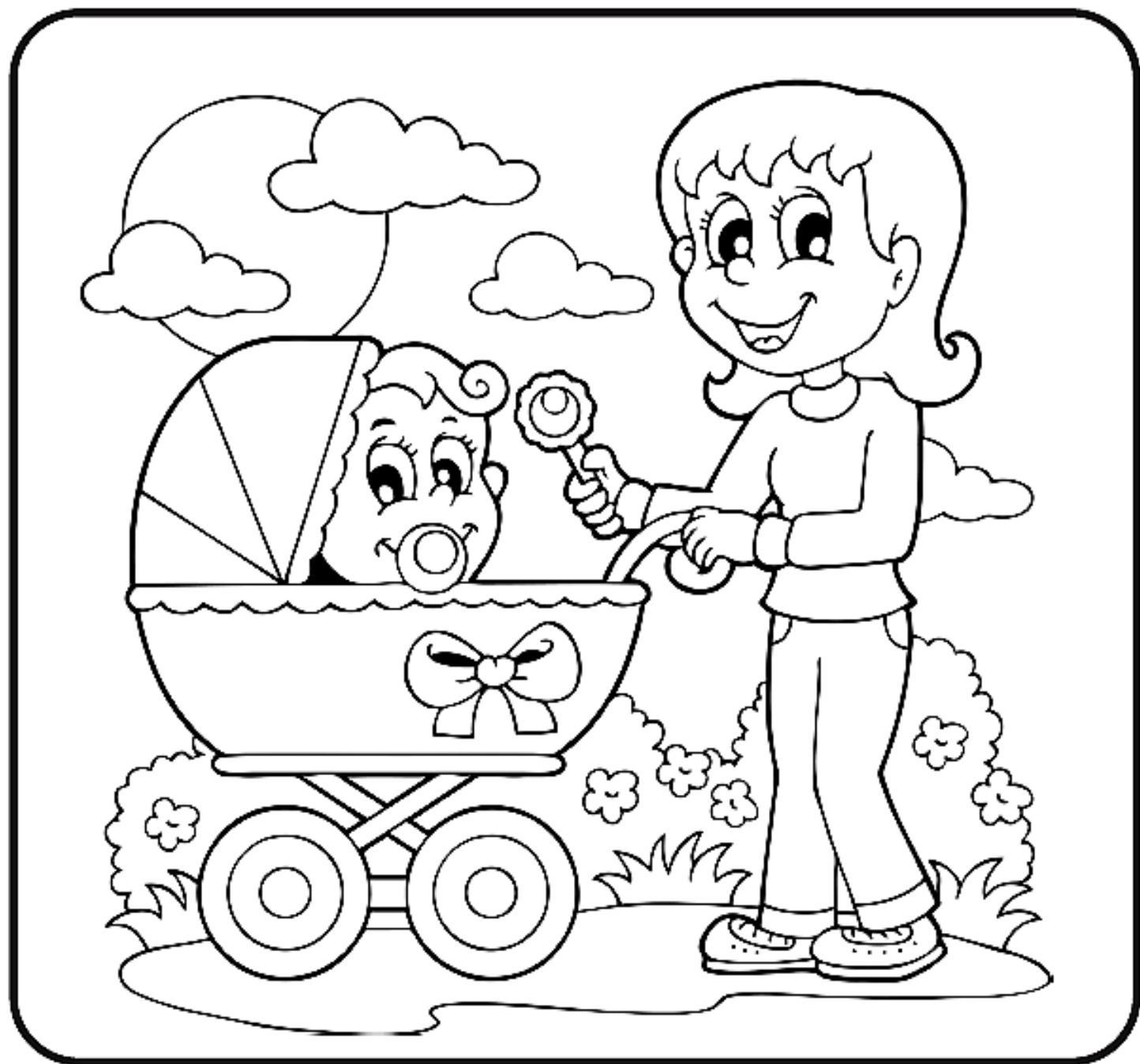
mirror

curling iron

blow dryer

scissors

CHILDCARE WORKER



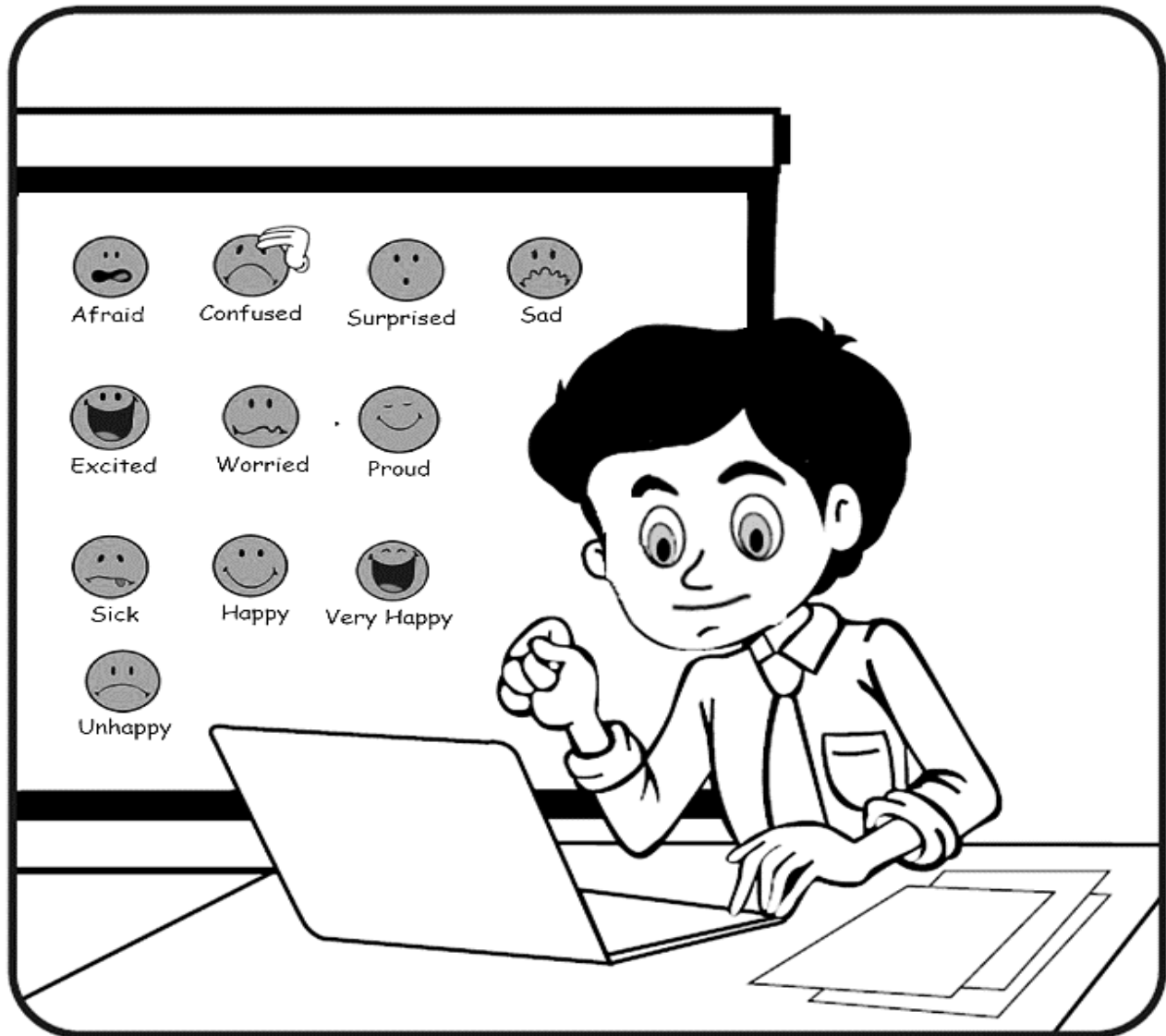
Childcare workers help children with basic needs such as dressing, feeding, and overseeing play.

RHYMING ACTIVITY

Draw a line from each toy on the left to two pictures inside the box that it rhymes with.

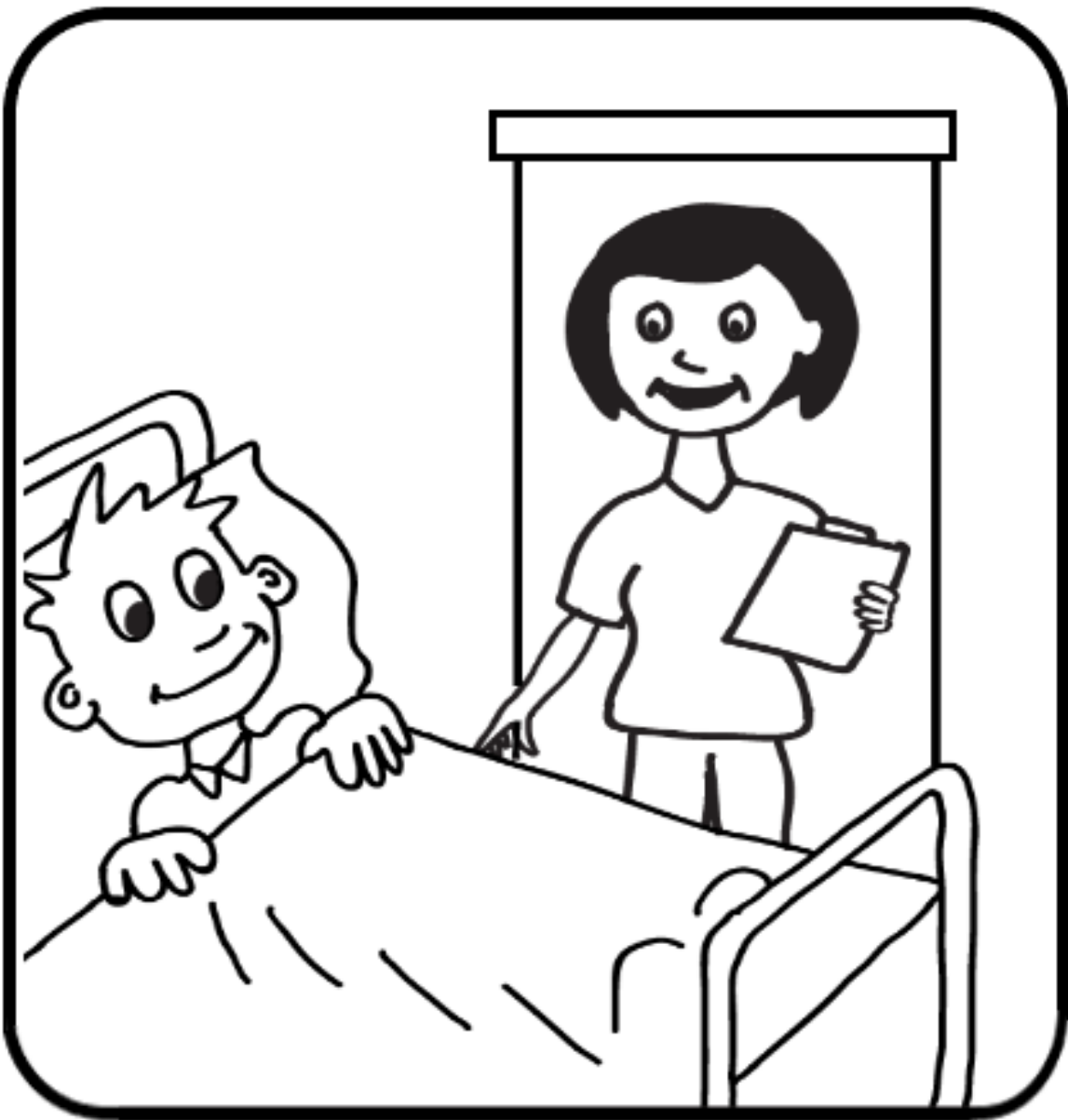


COUNSELOR



Counselors encourage people to talk about their feelings. They share strategies to help them manage emotions such as sadness, anxiety or worry.

PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT



Personal care assistants help people who are unable to care from themselves. They may work in a facility but often provide care in the person's home.

SOCIAL WORKER



Social workers help people solve problems in their everyday life. They help them deal with difficult situations to keep them safe and healthy.



Sample Careers

1. Funeral Director _____
2. Child Care Worker _____
3. Social Worker _____
4. Residential Counselor _____
5. _____

Can you think of another?

Careers in the Human Services cluster prepare people to help families and communities. People in these occupations work closely with others helping them with childcare, family counseling or investigations. They may work in funeral homes, preschools or counseling offices. You can be a minister, counselor, nursing aide or massage therapist and be in this career cluster.





Name _____

People in Human Services work to care for others. Draw a picture of how you might help someone in your school or community.

Describe how you helped someone in your school or community.

HUMAN SERVICES

Y H H F U N E R A L D I R E C T O R M J
Z H U Q F O L V D Q X F R V Q J S N W F
H F Z Z N I D E K B W U O R X J Q A P N
E C C T P V N U K P A K U P Z U X N S A
M P B O B J G A P C V K C A B M N N Y H
O A R G N E U J N E I P B O J U Q Y C Y
S P S E Z S V A H C R G M W E G T P H O
D O A S S T U E J W I S G Y U W S I O M
O D C R A C S M N L F A O D J L E K L H
C J B I E G H Q E T M N L N R M M O O B
O W Z W A N E O U R S V N P A F B I G Y
U O F N N L T T O U A P E S L L U E I I
N R D N H D W E H L H D E D K A A Z S J
S P B N V O H O D E T U V C L Y N I T H
E S A I L T I L R U R E F O I E I N D I
L U R O C T L N F K C A A K C A U W E E
O M B O T A E M H L E A P C H A L I U R
R B E H X K P V O C V R T I H L T I K P
P D R Q V W N T X H K P N O S E U E S U
X N R K D Y T L O W T A X L R T R A L T

BARBER

CONSUMER COUNSELOR

COUNSELOR

EVENT SPECIALIST

FINANCIAL PLANNER

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

MASSAGE THERAPIST

NANNY

PARENT EDUCATOR

PERSONAL AIDE

PRESCHOOL TEACHER

PSYCHOLOGIST

SOCIAL WORKER

DIG DEEPER

Note: These tasks serve only to generate ideas and connect real world activities to academic content. **Exploratory Tasks** may be teacher led through a class project, demonstration or assignment. **Extension Tasks** may be modified to align with ELA, math, science or social studies content through writing, determining/comparing costs, human impact, etc.

Exploratory Tasks	Extension Tasks
Interview your school counselor to learn how they support students at your school.	Create an infographic illustrating the duties of school counselors.
Work with a team to manage a canned food drive.	Create a flyer to persuade students and staff to donate to help people in your community.
Investigate human services available in your community.	Create an informational flyer describing human services available in your community to share with others.
Talk with a counselor, therapist or other mental health professional to identify emotions.	Create a coping skills checklist describing how to manage negative emotions. Share with others in your class.
Interview a coach, PE teacher or personal trainer to identify the different types of exercises.	Create a 15-minute exercise plan using the different types of exercises. Remember to warm up and cool down.

Is a Career in Human Services for Me?

Would you be interested in a career in Human Services? Below are knowledge and skill statements related to the careers in this cluster. Read each statement. Decide if this describes you by checking the Yes, No or Maybe box.

THINGS I LIKE TO DO	YES	NO	MAYBE
Help people meet their needs or solve their problems			
Participate in community services and/or volunteering			
Listen to other people's viewpoints			
Help people be at their best			
Work with people from preschool to old age			
Think of new ways to do things			
Make friends with different kinds of people			
PERSONAL QUALITIES THAT DESCRIBE ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Good communicator and/or listener			
Caring			
Non-materialistic			
Uses intuition and logic			
Non-judgmental			
SCHOOL SUBJECTS THAT INTEREST ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Language arts			
Psychology or sociology			
Family & consumer science			
Finance			
Foreign language			

Did you check YES most often? If so, continue to explore careers and opportunities in this cluster. And don't forget to continue to build the academic skills you need for these careers.

Did you check NO most often? If so, don't worry. There are hundreds of jobs to explore in the other 15 career cluster.

Did you check MAYBE most often? If so, continue to explore in this cluster as well as investigating how your skills and interests may be a good match in other clusters.