

# 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.

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING RESOURCES

## Teacher Resource

**Note:** Careers in Education & Training 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 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade band.

### Administration and Administrative Pathway

People with careers in this pathway provide direction, leadership and day-to-day management of educational activities in schools, day care centers, colleges, businesses, correctional institutions, museums, job training and community service organizations.

- Administrative Assistant
- Assessment Specialist
- Curriculum Developer
- Education Researcher
- Instructional Media Developer
- Principal
- Superintendent
- Supervisor and Instructional Coordinator

### Professional Support Services Pathway

Professional support services represent a variety of highly specialized occupations that are critical to education. Counselors, psychologists, social workers and speech-language pathologists all work to meet the individual needs of students

- Parent Educator
- Clinical Psychologist
- Counselor
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Social Worker
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Testing Specialist

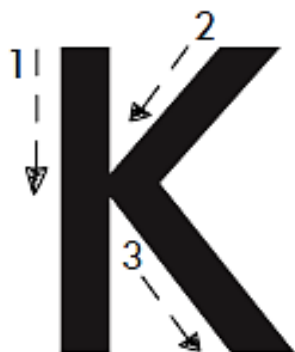
### Teaching and Training Pathway

Teachers and training specialists are experts in their subject. They must have the ability to communicate, motivate learners and understand the educational and emotional needs of their students. Teachers also must be able to offer different teaching/training methods to meet the diverse needs of individual learners.

- Childcare Worker
- Child Care Director
- Coach
- College/University Faculty
- Nanny
- Paraeducator
- Physical Trainer
- 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.



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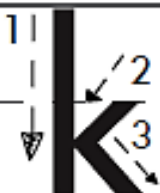
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Kindergarten Teacher

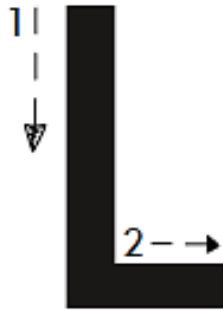
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# Alphabet Letter Printing Worksheet

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.



\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_

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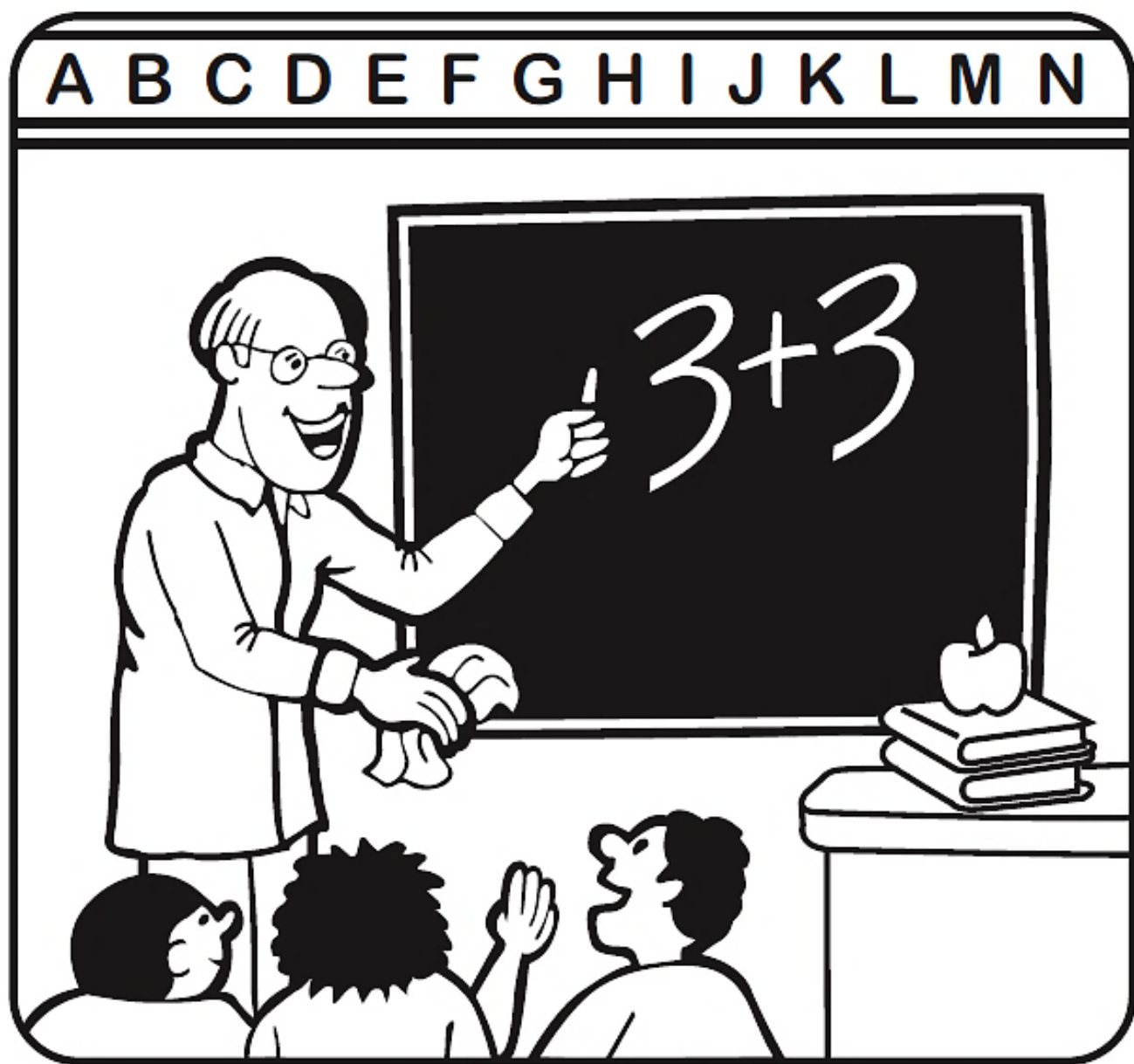
**Librarian**

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

# TEACHER



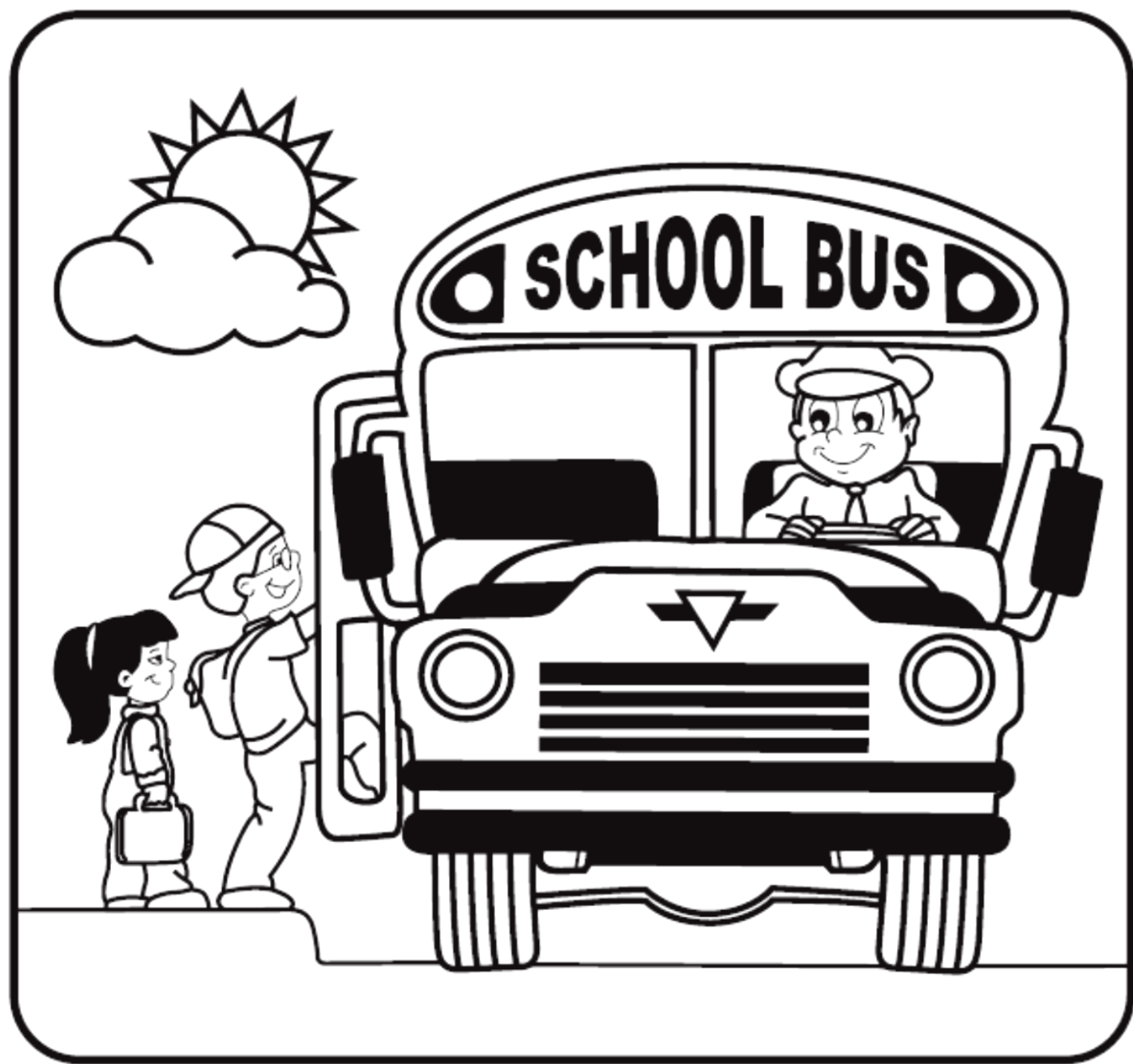
Teachers help students learn in a classroom.  
They teach many subjects, such as reading,  
spelling, math, and science.

## TEACHER SUPPLIES ACTIVITY

Circle the items that a teacher would use for his or her daily work.



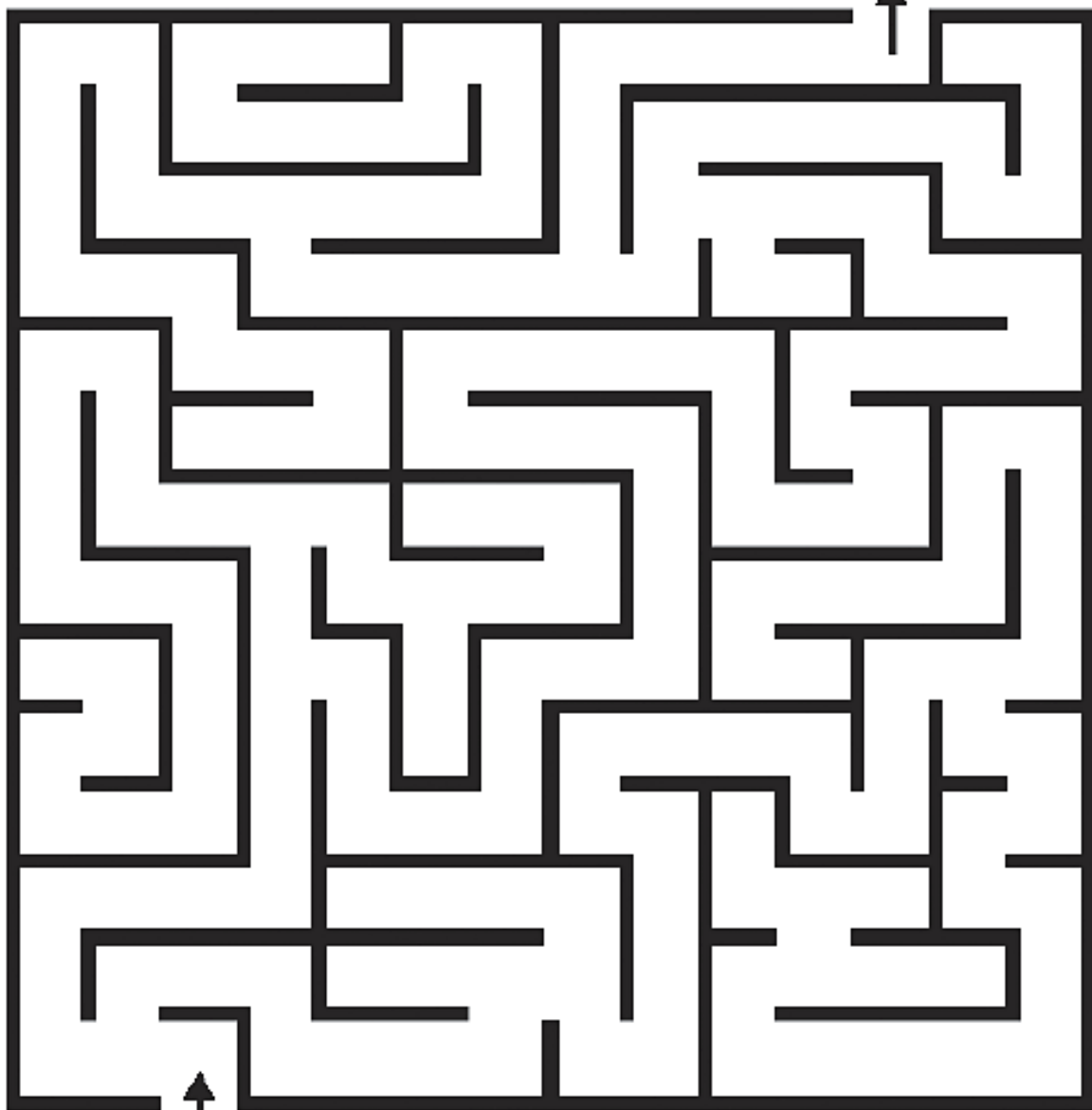
# BUS DRIVER



School bus drivers take students to and from school each day. They also drive students on field trips and to sporting events.

## BUS DRIVER MAZE ACTIVITY

Help the bus driver find his way through town to get to the elementary school.





# LIBRARIAN



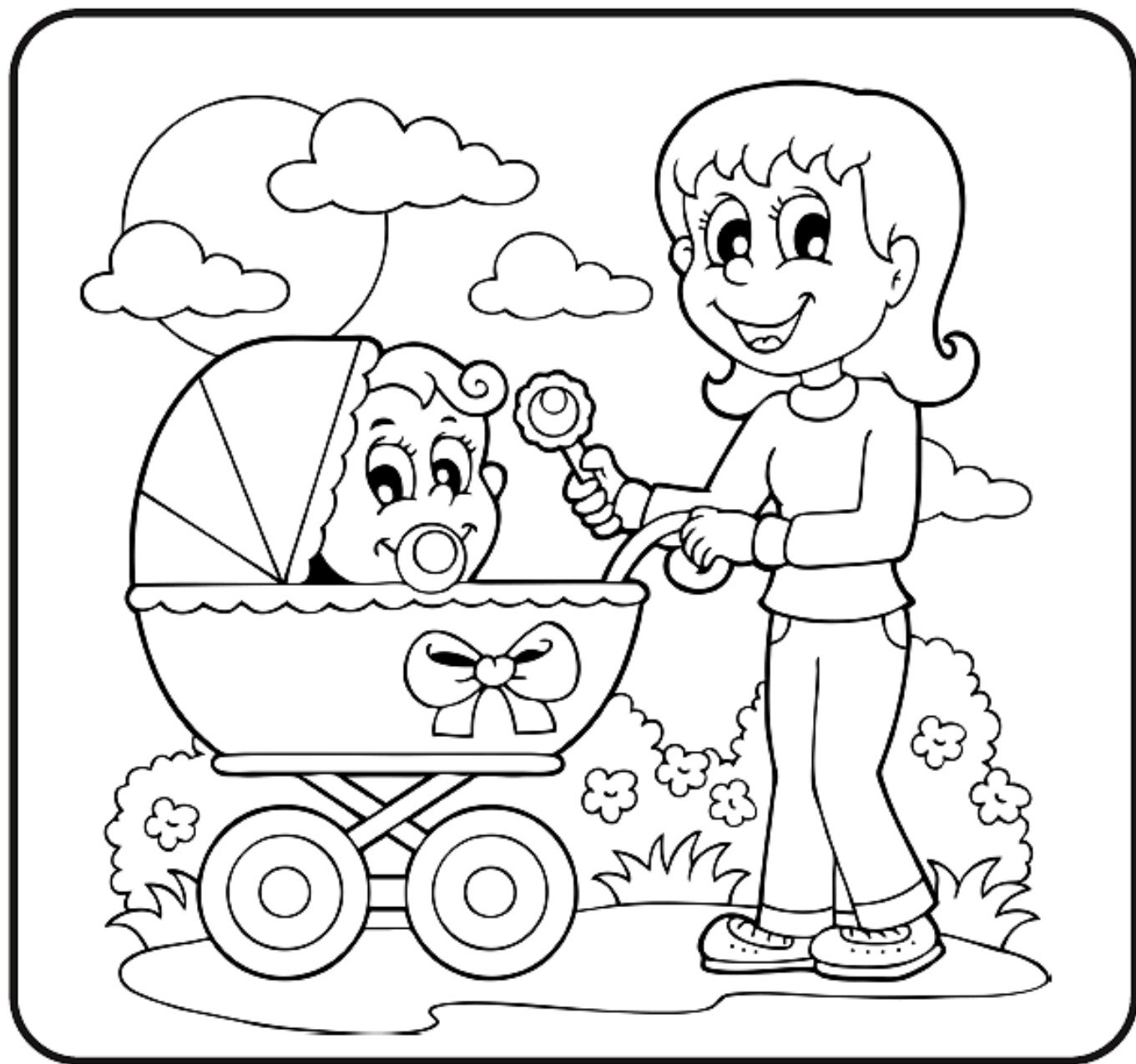
Librarians help people find books in a library.  
They also read stories to children and  
organize books so they are easy to find.

## ALPHABETICAL ORDER ACTIVITY

Help the librarian put the words below in alphabetical order.

- |                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| <b>bookshelf</b>  | 1. _____  |
| <b>librarian</b>  | 2. _____  |
| <b>book</b>       | 3. _____  |
| <b>study</b>      | 4. _____  |
| <b>computer</b>   | 5. _____  |
| <b>magazine</b>   | 6. _____  |
| <b>learn</b>      | 7. _____  |
| <b>maps</b>       | 8. _____  |
| <b>read</b>       | 9. _____  |
| <b>dictionary</b> | 10. _____ |

# 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.





### Sample Careers

1. School Teacher \_\_\_\_\_
2. School Principal \_\_\_\_\_
3. Coach \_\_\_\_\_
4. Librarian \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Can you think of another?

Careers in the Education & Training cluster help people learn new knowledge and get new skills. People in these occupations may work in libraries, schools or recreation centers. They may help plan or manage activities in a learning environment. You can be a teacher, counselor, librarian or a coach and be in this career cluster.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Draw a picture of a teacher in their classroom.**

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a drawing of a teacher in their classroom.

**If you were a teacher, what grade would you like to teach? Why?**

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**Would you like to do this type of work? Explain why or why not.**

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## EDUCATION & TRAINING CAREERS

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

SUPERINTENDENT  
 THERAPIST  
 NANNY  
 PROFESSOR  
 PARAEDUCATOR  
 LIBRARIAN  
 COUNSELOR

CAMP DIRECTOR  
 SOCIAL WORKER  
 PRINCIPAL  
 COACH  
 PSYCHOLOGIST  
 TEACHER  
 RESEARCHER

Play online at: <http://bit.ly/2XvwrM>

## 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
Help another student with a project, assignment or homework.	Keep a record of the progress the student makes in completing the work.
Demonstrate a skill you're really good at to your class.	Create a list of critical steps in learning the new skill for others to follow.
Interview a teacher to learn more about their responsibilities.	Create a T-chart of the pros and cons of teaching.
Become a mentor to a younger student.	Create a goal for your mentoring time. Evaluate the progress weekly.
Plan a family field trip.	Create a video collage to share your information.
Shadow a librarian.	Create an infographic showing how books are organized.



## Is a Career in Education and Training for Me?

Would you be interested in a career in Education and Training? 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
Communicate with different types of people			
Help others with their homework or to learn new things			
Go to school			
Direct and plan activities for others			
Handle several responsibilities at once			
Acquire new information			
Help people overcome their challenges			
PERSONAL QUALITIES THAT DESCRIBE ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Friendly			
Decision maker			
Helpful			
Innovative and inquisitive			
Good listener			
SCHOOL SUBJECTS THAT INTEREST ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Language arts			
Social studies			
Math			
Science			

**Did you check YES most often?** If so, continue to explore careers and opportunities in this cluster. And don't forget to focus on your math and science classes 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 clusters.

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