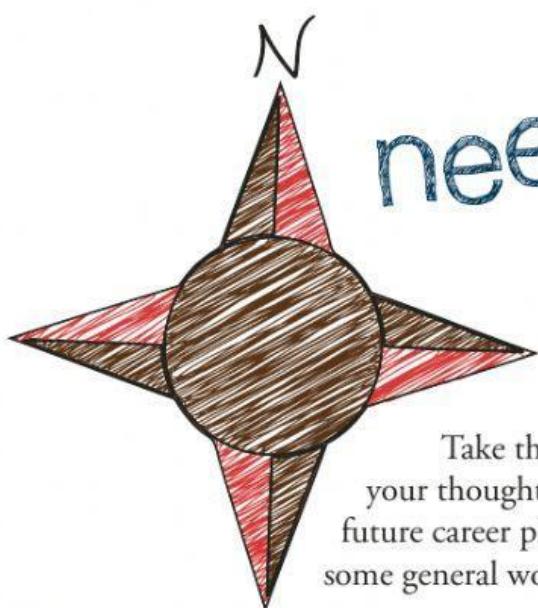


when I grow up ...

Even if you haven't given too much thought to careers, you've probably been asked what you want to be when you grow up. You might have even been asked this question many times. Your answer might have been the same or changed each time you were asked! For this activity, use the space below to either draw or write the first thing you remember wanting to be. Have you changed your mind or added other job ideas since then, or do you still want to be the same thing?



need directions?

Now that you've started thinking about careers, what do you do next?

Take the career interest survey on pages 11 to 15 to kick start your thoughts about what direction you would like to head with future career plans. Completing the following steps will point you to some general work areas where you can explore career possibilities.

interest survey

- Taking care of pets in your neighborhood
- Transplanting small trees
- Planting and taking care of flowers & plants
- Working in a garden & creating landscapes
- Nursing sick animals back to health
- Brushing or grooming dogs, cats, and/or horses
- Hiking & watching wildlife
- Chopping wood & replanting trees
- Identifying environmental hazards & sick/dying plants

1

Total checks _____

- Performing (music, drama, dance) for an audience
- Creating graphic designs on a computer
- Creating an original video or film
- Sketching or painting pictures
- Taking photographs
- Writing poems, stories or plays
- Making jewelry, sculpture, ceramics or stained glass
- Designing a newspaper layout (artwork)
- Being an announcer for an amateur radio station

3

Total checks _____

Check off the activities that interest you in each of the boxes. Add each column. Total your answers to discover which career clusters you may want to explore.

- Repairing small appliances
- Painting houses or buildings
- Using tools to make household repairs
- Cutting and shaping wood to build structures
- Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity
- Drawing floor plans
- Building simple circuit boards
- Laying brick or cinder block
- Landscaping and planting flower gardens

2

Total checks _____

- Using a cash register
- Typing minutes of a school club meeting
- Filing or sorting mail or other papers
- Running your own business
- Developing Web pages and creating print layouts using desktop publishing
- Managing tasks for a group
- Preparing reports and analyzing data
- Typing documents for other people
- Volunteering to answer phones

4

Total checks _____

interest survey

- Working as a kids' camp counselor or volunteer
- Tutoring young children
- Reading to elementary school students
- Giving instructions for/or directing a play
- Baby-sitting young children
- Organizing and shelving library books
- Peer counseling or mediation
- Helping at Special Olympics events
- Teaching young children in an after-school program

5

Total checks _____

- Campaigning for a political candidate
- Making political speeches
- Volunteering as an urban planning committee member
- Running for class office
- Planning and preparing budgets
- Participating in a debate
- Volunteering as a legislative aide
- Learning and speaking a foreign language
- Researching and writing grants

7

Total checks _____

Check off the activities that interest you in each of the boxes. Add each column. Total your answers to discover which career clusters you may want to explore.

- Planning a mock stock market game
- Investing money and studying investments
- Balancing a checkbook
- Opening a savings/checking account
- Being a treasurer for a school club
- Organizing a fund-raiser
- Collecting money for a school or community event
- Developing a budget
- Using spreadsheets and financial computer programs

6

Total checks _____

- Taking care of a sick relative
- Watching doctor/hospital shows on TV
- Learning first aid and CPR
- Volunteering at a retirement home
- Volunteering as a hospital aide
- Using a stethoscope to listen to someone's heart
- Identifying human body parts from a diagram
- Bandaging sports injuries with a trainer's help
- Assisting persons in wheelchairs with daily tasks

8

Total checks _____

interest survey

- Working in a restaurant
- Planning vacations and other events
- Cooking, baking and serving meals
- Participating in sports or recreational activities
- Being a lifeguard
- Catering an event
- Working at a concession stand
- Exercising and working out
- Officiating a sporting event

9

Total checks _____

- Developing software programs
- Building computers
- Playing video games
- Surfing the Internet
- Learning how to configure operating systems
- Installing software
- Learning how to assemble computer hardware
- Playing with electronic gadgets
- Designing video games

11

Total checks _____

Check off the activities that interest you in each of the boxes. Add each column. Total your answers to discover which career clusters you may want to explore.

- Making a family menu
- Working with the elderly
- Working at a shelter
- Shopping, comparing prices & consumer goods
- Listening & helping friends with problems
- Participating in youth groups or community groups
- Working as a dietetic aid
- Volunteering at a retirement home
- Volunteering to be a Big Brother/Big Sister

10

Total checks _____

- Reading mystery novels
- Listening to a police scanner
- Watching mystery movies or courtroom dramas
- Playing "Clue" or other mystery board games
- Volunteering in a lawyer's office
- Following court cases in the news
- Participating in EMT training
- Volunteering to search for missing pets or persons
- Participating in search and/or rescue training

12

Total checks _____

interest survey

- Welding or working with metals
- Repairing and upholstering furniture
- Creating wood carvings
- Taking machine shop classes
- Making belts or other leather goods
- Operating a printing press
- Installing and repairing home electronics
- Sewing, weaving, knitting or other needlework
- Building cabinets, shelves and other simple woodworking

13

Total checks _____

- Visiting science museums
- Designing experiments
- Exploring caves and collecting rocks
- Watching the weather and tracking storms
- Using a computer to solve math problems and equations
- Identifying plants, animals and/or marine life
- Developing solutions to environmental problems
- Building model aircraft/boats/trains
- Learning about different cultures

15

Total checks _____

Check off the activities that interest you in each of the boxes. Add each column. Total your answers to discover which career clusters you may want to explore.

- Cutting & styling hair
- Selling products for a school fund-raiser
- Taking tours of new houses for sale
- Designing or modeling clothes
- Giving people advice on products they should buy
- Decorating your house and rearranging your furniture
- Planning and having a yard sale
- Arranging and selling flowers
- Fixing watches and clocks

14

Total checks _____

- Flying airplanes
- Repairing vehicles, bikes and engines
- Working in a warehouse or taking inventory
- Operating motorized machines or equipment
- Visiting space camps
- Building and repairing boats
- Operating a CB or ham radio
- Reading mechanical and automotive magazines/blogs
- Having a paper route

16

Total checks _____

14

interest survey

TOTALS

Count the check marks in each section on pages 11-14 and place the total in the corresponding box below.

1. Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	2. Architecture & Construction	3. Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communications	4. Business Management & Administration
5. Education & Training	6. Finance	7. Government & Public Administration	8. Health Science
9. Hospitality & Tourism	10. Human Services	11. Information Technology	12. Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
13. Manufacturing	14. Marketing	15. Science, Technology, Engineering & Math	16. Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

Source: Adapted from "Who R U" interest survey with permission from Virginia Career View.

My **top three** Interest Areas:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

As you can see, the interest survey is divided into 16 groups. Each group is a **career cluster**. Career clusters place similar occupations in groups. These clusters help you narrow the thousands of career options in the world to a general area of interest. The clusters connect what you learn in school to the skills and knowledge you need beyond high school. Some careers are placed in more than one cluster.