

Lesson Plans & Worksheets

PAWS IN JOBLAND

Grades 3 - 5





Lesson Plan 24 - Just the Job

Individual activity leading to class discussion: 30-45 minutes.

Learning objectives:

- To encourage children to think of themselves in relation to specific jobs
- To address equal opportunity issues
- It might also offer the opportunity to stress that all work has value

Curriculum links: Technology – database exploration.

Resources needed/preparation:

- Photocopies of Worksheet 24
- Pen/pencil and crayons/fiber-tip pens

Background: At this stage, children will perhaps find it difficult to imagine themselves doing any job. This worksheet activity is a fun way of asking them to put themselves in the shoes of a person doing a job. It also provides an opportunity to examine traditional stereotypes, which suggest that certain jobs are for men and others are for women.

Introduction/guidelines for students:

- Discuss with the children what the jobs mechanic and registered nurse involve. Ask them if they know anyone who does these jobs. Do not introduce the equal opportunity issues at this stage.
- Hand out the worksheet. It explains to the children that they should look at the two jobs in Paws in Jobland. They should then consider whether or not they would like to do each of the jobs, and give reasons for their decision.
- When the whole class has done the worksheet, you can take the activity further, addressing the issue of traditional stereotypes.
- Request a show of hands when you ask who would like to do the mechanic's job. Do the same when you ask who would like to do the nurse's job. Do you notice a gender bias? If you do, you could ask the class if anyone has noticed that boys seem to prefer one job and girls another. Discuss the reasons for this. You could ask a selection of children to talk about the reasons they gave for liking or not liking each job.
- Ask them if they know of any female mechanics or male nurses. If they don't know any personally, you could suggest examples from books or television.

Ideas for further development:

- Ask the children to think of other jobs that are thought of as traditionally male or traditionally female. Look at Paws in Jobland and look out for women doing jobs which are thought of as traditionally male and vice versa. Ask the girls to think about whether they like some of the traditionally male jobs, and the boys to think about whether they like some of the traditionally female jobs.
- The show of hands could be developed into a mathematical exercise, working out the percentage of girls who liked the mechanic's job and the percentage of boys who liked the nurse's job.

Ideas for making the activity easier:

- You may not think it appropriate to introduce equal opportunity issues into this exercise. In this case, the activity can be seen as a simple self-awareness exercise.

Display ideas:

Carrying through the theme of equal opportunities, you could put up some of the students' pictures alongside photographs from magazines that show images challenging traditional stereotypes.



Worksheet 24 - Just the Job

My Name: _____ Date: _____

Materials/Resources Needed:

- Photocopies of Worksheet 24
- Pens and pencils
- Crayons and fiber-tip pens



Look on Paws in Jobland at the jobs **Mechanic** and **Registered Nurse**. Think about which of these jobs you would like to do and why.

Draw your own face on the pictures below.

Make sure your face shows whether or not you would enjoy the job! You can color the pictures in too.



Give three reasons why you would or would not like to do each job.

Mechanic

My three reasons are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Registered Nurse

My three reasons are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



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