

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.

HEALTH RESOURCES

Teacher Resource

Note: Careers in Health Science cluster 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.

Therapeutic Services

Professionals in this pathway treat injuries and illnesses. They work directly with individuals to provide care, treatment, counseling and health education information to improve the quality of life for their patients.

- Medical Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Dietician
- Occupational Therapist
- Physician

Diagnostic Services

Diagnostic services is an umbrella term for careers that use a variety of tools and equipment to perform tests to help detect, diagnose and treat disease and injury.

- Lab Technician
- Computer Tomography (CT) Technologist
- Magnetic Resonance (MR) Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Geneticist
- Medical Technologist
- Pathologist
- Radiologist

Health Informatics

This pathway includes professionals who manage health care agencies as well as specialists who are responsible for managing patient data, financial information and computer applications related to health care.

- Data Information Manager
- Health Information Coder
- Medical Biller
- Transcriptionist
- Epidemiologist
- Health Care Administrator
- Health Educator
- Medical Librarian

Support Services

Support service specialists work to maintain health care facilities, provide services for patients and manage supplies and equipment. This pathway offers career opportunities from the entry level to management positions.

- Biomedical Technician
- Central Services Manager
- Dietary Aide
- Hospital Maintenance Engineer
- Transport Technician
- Environmental Services Manager
- Facility Manager

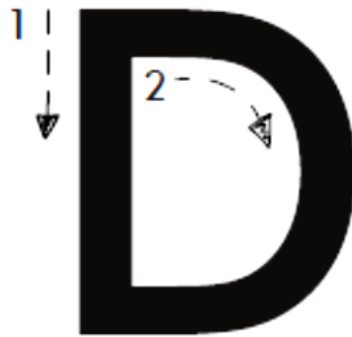
Biotechnology Research and Development

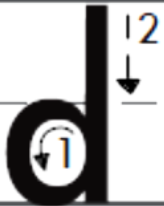
Professionals in this pathway conduct bioscience (any of the life sciences) research as it applies to human health. They study diseases to discover new treatments, invent medical devices to use directly with patients or to improve the accuracy of diagnostic tests.

- Animal Services Technologist
- Lab Assistant-Genetics
- Quality Assurance Technician
- Biochemist
- Cell Biologist
- Pharmaceutical Scientist
- Toxicologist

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.

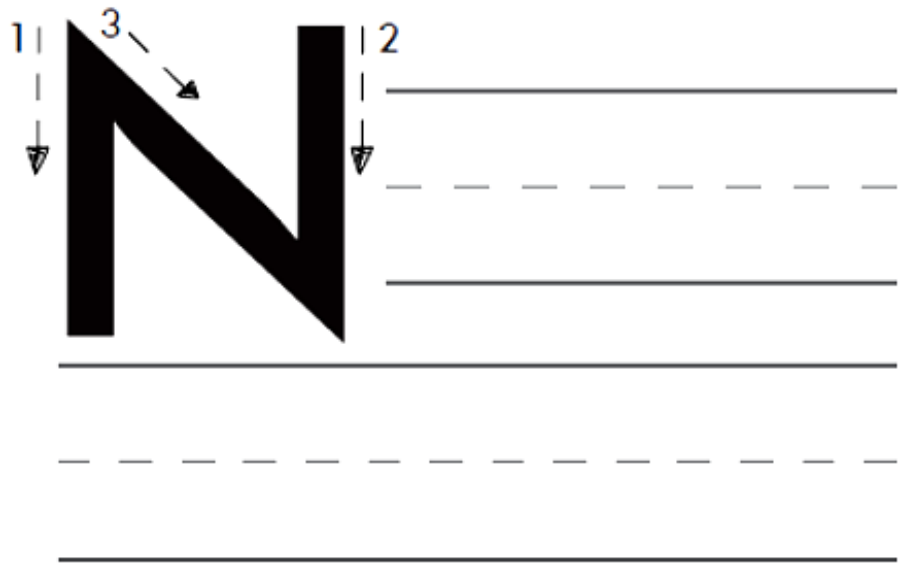




Dentist

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.

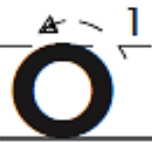


Nurse

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.



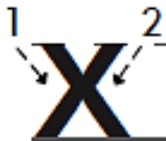


Optometrist

Alphabet Letter Printing Worksheet

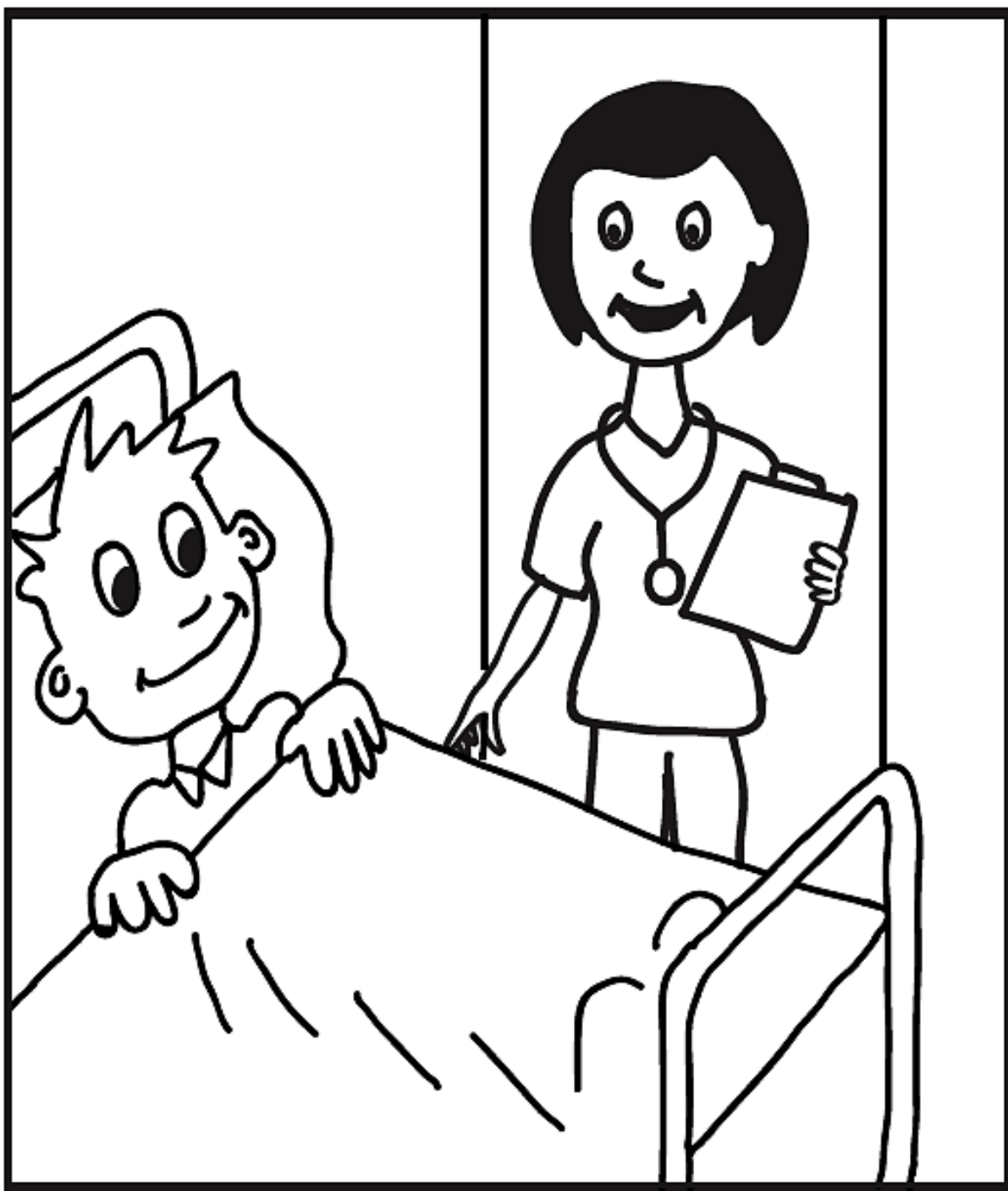
Practice writing each upper case and lower case letter on the lines below as shown on the sample letters. Then write the name of the occupation.





X-ray Technician

Health Sciences



NURSES

Nurses take care of you when you are sick. Nurses work in hospitals, doctors' offices, and some nurses work in schools or even come to your home.

NURSE

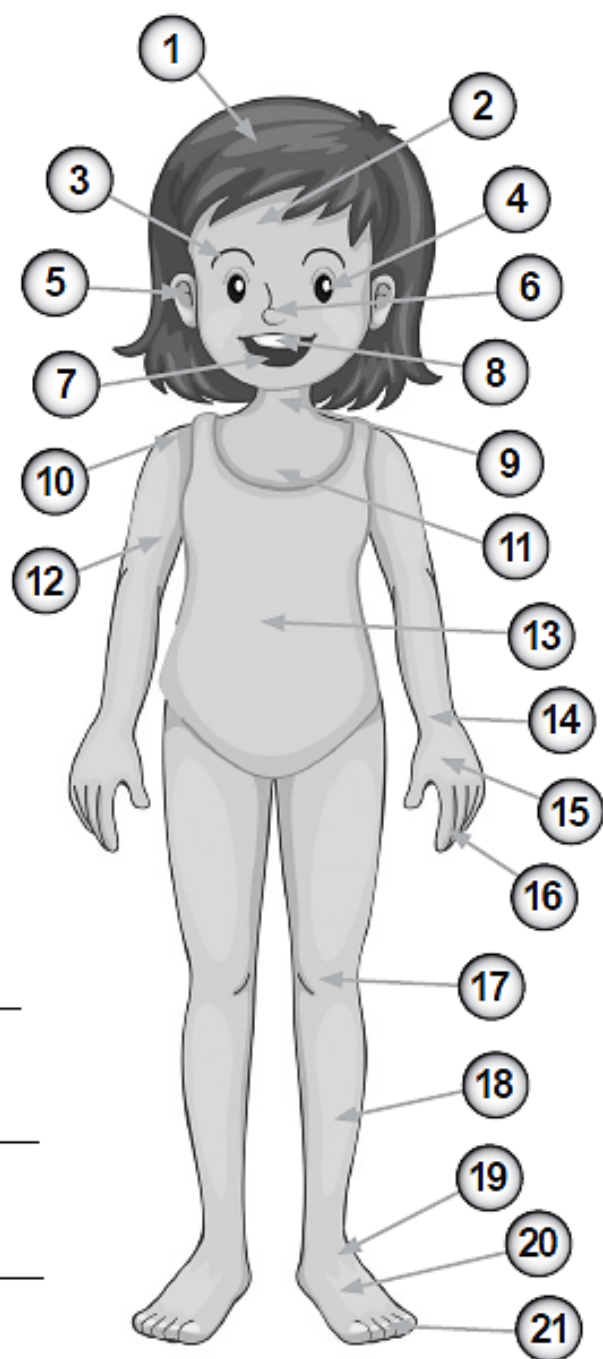


Nurses take care of patients. They observe and take notes. Nurses work in hospitals, doctors' offices and schools.

THE HUMAN BODY ACTIVITY

Unscramble the words and then match them with the appropriate numbered body part. Write the number in the circle in front of the word.

- AHDN** _____
- NEKE** _____
- HETET** _____
- RIHA** _____
- OTE** _____
- REA** _____
- LAENK** _____
- GLE** _____
- KECN** _____
- LBYEL** _____
- GIRFEN** _____
- TOFO** _____
- SWTIR** _____
- MAR** _____
- BERWYEO** _____
- YEE** _____
- ODSRHELU** _____
- SCEHT** _____
- HOFERADE** _____
- HOMTU** _____
- SEON** _____



DENTIST



Dentists help their patients take care of their teeth and gums. They also tell them about food choices that affect their teeth.

HEALTHY TEETH ACTIVITY

Cross out the things in each row that do not keep your teeth healthy. What letter do the remaining items in each row start with? Write that letter on the line to the left.













Sample Careers

1. Nurse _____
2. Pharmacist _____
3. Surgeon _____
4. Dentist _____
5. _____

Can you think of another?

Careers in the Health Science cluster help people stay healthy or take care of people who are sick. People in these occupations might specialize on different parts of your body like your teeth, feet, eyes, back or even your brain. They may work in hospitals, laboratories, pharmacies, dentist offices or schools. You can be a psychiatrist, optician, pharmacist, nurse or chiropractor and be in this career cluster.





Name _____

Draw a picture of a doctor, nurse or dentist caring for a patient.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to draw a picture of a healthcare professional caring for a patient.

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

HEALTH SCIENCE

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

HISTOLOGIST
LAB TECHNICIAN
PHYSICIAN
NURSE
DIETICIAN
TOXICOLOGIST
CT TECHNOLOGIST
MEDICAL BILLER

HEALTH EDUCATOR
PATHOLOGIST
GENETICIST
BIOCHEMIST
EPIDEMIOLOGIST
RADIOLOGIST
PHLEBOTOMIST

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 a pharmacist about the proper use and storage of medicine.	Create a flyer to inform others about the proper use and storage of medicine.
Talk to an EMT or nurse to learn a first aid skill, e.g., how to treat a cut or sting, sprained ankle, etc.	Create an infographic describing an injury and explaining how to treat it. Include precautions
Learn how to take a pulse.	Take the pulse of other students in your class. Create a graph to show the range, mean, median and mode.
Talk to the school nurse to learn the proper use of a face mask.	Create a video demonstrating how to properly put on, take off and discard the mask.
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 Health Sciences for Me?

Would you be interested in a career in Health Sciences? 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
Work under pressure			
Help sick people and animals			
Make decisions based on logic and information			
Participate in health and science classes			
Respond quickly and calmly in emergencies			
Work as a member of a team			
Follow guidelines precisely			
Meet strict standards of accuracy			
PERSONAL QUALITIES THAT DESCRIBE ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Compassionate and caring			
Good at following directions			
Conscientious and careful			
Patient			
Good listener			
SCHOOL SUBJECTS THAT INTEREST ME	YES	NO	MAYBE
Live sciences			
Chemistry			
Math			
Health class			
Language arts			

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.