

“What do you like?”

A 15-minute classroom activity for grades 3 to 5. One free web page. No account, no login, nothing saved.

What students get out of it: an interest they already have — animals, sports, food, building things — connects to real occupations they have never heard of, with the U.S. government’s own words and its own count of how many people do each one.

BEFORE YOU START

- Open kelvocareers.com/elementary in any browser. It works on a phone, a tablet, a Chromebook or a laptop.
- One device per pair is plenty. One device on the board also works — see the note at the bottom.
- Nothing to install, nothing to sign up for, no cost. Nothing about the student is saved — no account, no score, no result. Close the tab and every choice is gone.

THE FIFTEEN MINUTES

- 2 min** You set it up. Show the eight pictures on the board. Say the rule out loud: there are no right answers, and nothing you tap is saved.
- 3 min** Pick two. Each student taps two things they like. Two is the number that matters — one interest gives an obvious list, two gives a list they did not expect.
- 5 min** Open three jobs. Find one job you already knew about and one you had never heard of. Tap a job to see what those people actually do.
- 3 min** Write it down. The half-sheet on the next page. Name the job nobody knew, and one thing that person does at work.
- 2 min** Share. Three or four students read theirs out. The questions below are an easy place to start if you want to keep going.

THREE QUESTIONS TO ASK

- 1 Which job did you not know was a job?
- 2 What does that person actually do? Read us one line.
- 3 Which job has the most people doing it? Which has the fewest?

WHAT USUALLY SURPRISES THEM — KEEP THESE IN YOUR POCKET

- 15,070** people in the country are professional athletes. 248,950 are coaches and scouts — more than sixteen coaches for every player.
- 2,120** astronomers. The smallest job on the whole page.
- 2,062,040** heavy truck drivers. The largest.
- 19,970** special effects artists and animators. Most children do not know that is a job at all.

WHERE EVERY WORD ON THAT PAGE COMES FROM

What each job does is the U.S. Department of Labor’s O*NET 30.3 task statements. How many people do it, and what it pays, is the Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics, May 2025 — the published figure, not an estimate of ours.

The sentences children read are rewritten into plain language, and the government’s exact sentence is printed underneath every one of them, labelled, so any adult can check the rewrite on the spot. The plain lines are short phrases that start with a verb, because the government’s task statements are written that way too. The government’s own sentences measure at about ninth grade, which is the reason the rewrite exists at all.

There is no advice on the page. No ranking, no quiz, no score, no “careers for you”. It does not tell a child what to be, and it does not tell them what they are good at.

For older students, kelvocareers.com/explore is the same jobs with the government’s sentences word for word, no rewriting, and sixteen interest groups instead of eight.

If you only have one screen: run it from the board. Take a class vote on the first interest, then a second vote on a second interest, and open jobs together. The activity still works — the writing step and the three questions are unchanged.



Name _____

“What do you like?”

TWO THINGS I PICKED

1. _____
2. _____

A JOB I ALREADY KNEW ABOUT

A JOB I HAD NEVER HEARD OF

ONE THING THAT PERSON DOES AT WORK

HOW MANY PEOPLE IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY DO IT?

ONE THING THAT SURPRISED ME

cut here



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