

2nd Grade Career Development
Activity #1: My Abilities
Estimated time: 30-45 minutes

National Career Development Guidelines Indicators

PS1 - Develop understanding of yourself to build and maintain a positive self-concept

- PS1.K1 - Identify your interests, likes, and dislikes
- PS1.K2 - Identify your abilities, strengths, skills, and talents

PS2 - Develop positive interpersonal skills including respect for diversity

- PS2.K10 - Recognize that the ability to interact positively with diverse groups of people may contribute to learning and academic achievement

ED1 - Attain educational achievement and performance levels needed to reach your personal and career goals

- ED1.K7 - Recognize that your educational achievement and performance can lead to many workplace options

Goal:

Students will investigate their abilities and relate them to career skills.

Objectives:

- Discuss abilities, strengths, skills, and talents
- Discuss employability skills
- Discover how skills acquired in school can lead to job skills and choices

Materials:

- 2nd Grade Career Development Activity #1 Handout - **My Abilities**
- Chalk or whiteboard
- Drawing paper
- Pencil, pens, or markers
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Activity:

1. *Ask the class, “What kinds of things are you good at doing?” Allow students to discuss the question. “Well, did you know that some of the things you’re already good at in the second grade could make you a very good worker when you grow up? Let’s look at some of your abilities—that means the things you’re able to do, the things you’re good at doing—and find out what you’re good at doing and what your classmates are good at doing, too.”*
2. *Distribute the **My Abilities Handout #1**. Tell students that they will find other classmates with one of the abilities in the table. Once they find a classmate with one of the abilities, the classmates will write his/her name on the line under it. Tell students that they can write their own name under one of the abilities.*
3. *When students have completed the abilities table, explain that there are abilities and skills that all workers need, whether that worker is a doctor, a teacher, a farmer or a police officer. “For example, all workers need to be good at listening and at speaking.” Write these on the board. “All workers have to understand and follow instructions.” Write these on the*

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board. “And all workers have to know how to do math and how to write.” Write these on the board.

4. *“But there are other skills—skills are the things that you have practiced and can do well—that all workers need. Let’s make a list of skills you think that all workers need.” Write this list on the board.*
5. *When students are done brainstorming, fill in their list with items from the list below that were not included in theirs. Ensure they understand the terms; define the terms for them. Have them discuss why these skills are important at school, too.*

All Workers Should:

- *Be dependable and responsible*
 - *Have a good attitude about work*
 - *Be on time and ready to work*
 - *Be cooperative and work as a team*
 - *Be self-confident*
 - *Be adaptable and flexible*
 - *Be able to control and manage themselves*
 - *Dress appropriately*
 - *Be honest*
6. *After the discussion about work skills and school skills, have students review their abilities table and think about what kind of workers they want to be and what kind of jobs they would like to have.*
 7. *Distribute drawing paper and have students draw themselves working in a job they’d like to have. When students have completed their drawings, display them on the bulletin board under the title, “School Skills and Work Skills”.*

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on the completion of their abilities table and their drawings.

Handout #1

My Abilities
2nd Grade Career Development Activity #1

I am good at following directions. _____	I am good at writing. _____	I am good at sports. _____
I am good at helping others. _____	I am good at being honest. _____	I am good at working with new friends. _____
I am good at math. _____	I am good at solving problems. _____	I am good at learning new things fast. _____
I am good at reading. _____	I am a good listener. _____	I have a good attitude. _____