

2nd Grade Career Development
Activity #2: Horticulturist
Career Cluster: Agriculture, Food Production and Natural Resources
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.K3 - Identify your positive personal characteristics (e.g., honesty, dependability, responsibility, integrity, and loyalty)

PS2 - Develop positive interpersonal skills including respect for diversity

- PS2.K2 - Recognize the benefits of interacting with others in a way that is honest, fair, helpful, and respectful
- 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 the work of horticulturists.

Objectives:

- Discuss the natural world of plants: trees, shrubs, flowers
- Discuss various careers working with plants

Materials:

- 2nd Grade Career Development Activity #2 Handout - **Horticulturist**
- Chalk or whiteboard
- Drawing paper
- Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Activity:

1. *Explain to the class that they will be talking about people who work with plants. Ask, “When you go outside and look around, what sort of things do you see growing out of the earth?” Allow students to answer the question; put their answers on the board. Possible answers: trees, grass, shrubs, flowers, mushrooms. Ask, “Have you ever been to a store where they sell trees or flowers? Have you ever helped plant a tree or some flowers? What about vegetables and fruit? Have any of you ever planted a garden? Maybe some carrots? Or peas? Or strawberries?” Allow students to discuss these questions.*
2. *“Raise your hand if you like to plant flowers and trees. Wonderful, now raise your hand if you like to plant vegetables and fruits. Well, if you like to do these sorts of things, you might be interested in horticulture.” Write this on the board and define the word: The science of growing plants.*

3. “Do you know what you need to grow plants? First you need somewhere to plant them, right? Then what do you need?” *Answers: water, plant food (fertilizer), sun. Allow students to answer.* “So, once we have them planted, watered and fed and have the right amount of sun, is that all we need? What if we get bugs on our plants or what if they get sick from too much water or sun or what if the grass grows up around them? Well, then we also need to know how to protect our plants. We need to know how to fix the problem. The people who figure out what’s wrong and how to fix it are called horticulturists.” *Write the word and definition on the board.* “Horticulturists are people who study plants -- how they grow, where they grow, and how to protect them so they can grow.”
4. *Distribute drawing paper and tell students you want them to draw their favorite type of plant. If they have several favorites, they can draw them all. When students are finished, have them present their drawings to the class and explain what they like about their favorite plant.*
5. *Review the lesson with students: What is horticulture? What is a horticulturist? Then ask how many students would like to be a horticulturist and work with plants.*
6. “Since we’ve learned such a big, important word today, let’s have a little fun with it.” *Distribute the **Horticulturist Handout #1** and pencils to students. Tell them to see how many words they can make out of the word horticulturist. Have students work individually or with a partner and allow sufficient time for them to complete the assignment.*
7. *Once students have completed their handout, ask, “How many have five words? How many have 10 words?” Keep going until you find the student with the most words. Have that student read her list to the class.*
8. *Collect and display student drawings around the room.*

Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on their handouts and their drawings.

Handout #1

2nd Grade Career Development
Activity #2: Horticulturist

HORTICULTURIST

How many words can you make from this one? List them below.

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