

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Development**  
**Activity #8: Health Science Careers**  
**Estimated time: 30-45 minutes**

**National Career Development Guidelines Indicators**

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
- ED1.K8 - Recognize that the ability to acquire and use information contributes to educational achievement and performance

ED2 - Participate in ongoing, lifelong learning experiences to enhance your ability to function effectively in a diverse and changing economy

- ED2.K3 - Recognize the importance of being an independent learner and taking responsibility for your learning

CM3 - Use accurate, current, and unbiased career information during career planning and management

- CM3.K2 - Recognize that career information includes occupational, education and training, employment, and economic information and that there is a range of career information resources available
- CM3.K4 - Identify several ways to classify occupations

CM4 - Master academic, occupational, and general employability skills in order to obtain, create, maintain, and/or advance your employment

- CM4.K4 - Recognize that many skills are transferable from one occupation to another

**Goal:**

Students will investigate careers in the **Health Science** Career Cluster.

**Objectives:**

- Understand that a career cluster is a grouping of occupations based on commonalities
- Recognize that the **Health Science** Career Cluster includes careers in diagnosing, treating, and researching human healthcare and health science
- Investigate careers in the **Health Science** Career Cluster

**Materials:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Development Activity #8 – **Health Science Careers: Doctors and Therapists** handout
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Development Activity #8 – **Health Science Careers: Doctors and Therapists** answer sheet
- Writing materials

**Activity:**

1. “Today we’re going to learn about occupations in the **Health Science** Career Cluster. Does everyone remember what a Career Cluster is? **A career cluster is a grouping of occupations based on things they have in common.**”
2. “The **Health Science** Career Cluster includes jobs that plan, manage, and provide therapeutic services, diagnostic services, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development.” *Write this on the board.* “Now, who do you go to for regular check-ups? Pediatrician/Dentist/Ophthalmologist. Yes. These are different kinds of doctors for different kinds of needs. And who do you go to if you have sprained your ankle and need help with exercises to make it better? Physical Therapist” *Write this on the board.* “Physical Therapists assess, plan, organize, and participate in rehabilitative programs that improve mobility, relieve pain, increase strength, and improve or correct disabling conditions resulting from disease or injury.”
3. “And just like there are lots of different kinds of doctors, there are also lots of different kinds of therapists. Let’s look at some different kinds of therapists. (*Write on the board or have a prepared overhead or chart.*) Recreational therapists plan, direct, or coordinate medically-approved recreation programs for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, or other institutions. Activities include sports, trips, dramatics, social activities, and arts and crafts.” Ask, “What do you think that means?” *Allow students to discuss the question.*
4. “Let’s look at another type of therapist. (*Write on the board or have a prepared overhead or chart.*) Respiratory therapists assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders.” Ask, “What do you think that means?” *Allow students to discuss the question.* “Now, let’s do a short activity and see how many of these different doctors and therapists you can identify.”
5. *Distribute the **Health Science Careers: Doctors and Therapists** handout. Explain the directions and ensure students understand them. Tell them to read the descriptions carefully and try to make a guess at the ones they don’t know. Walk around the room to answer questions and offer any help needed. Allow enough time for all students to complete the assignment.*
6. *When students have completed the handout, go over the answers and ensure that students have the correct answers. Then go around the room and have each student pick a favorite off the list. Have them tell why it sounds interesting to them.*
7. *After the discussion, collect student handouts.*

**Evaluation:**

Students will be evaluated on their class participation and their handouts.

Handout #1

Health Science Careers: Doctors and Therapists  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Development Activity #8

Directions: Put the number of the occupation on the line in front of the description that best describes it.

Occupations	Descriptions
1. Low Vision Therapists	_____ Diagnose, treat, and help prevent children's diseases and injuries
2. Ophthalmologists	_____ Diagnose and treat diseases and deformities of the human foot
3. Massage Therapists	_____ Diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases and injuries of the eyes
4. Pediatricians	_____ Diagnose, treat, and help prevent disorders of the mind
5. Psychiatrists	_____ Assess, plan, organize and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills
6. Radiation Therapists	_____ Provide therapy to patients with visual impairments to improve functioning in daily life activities
7. Occupational Therapists	_____ Administer anesthetics during surgery or other medical procedures
8. Audiologists	_____ Assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders
10. Podiatrists	_____ Assess and treat persons with hearing disorders
	_____ Provide therapeutic massage of soft tissues and joints
	_____ Provide radiation therapy to patients as prescribed by a radiologist according to established practices and standards.

## Answer Sheet

### Health Science Careers: Doctors and Therapists 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Development Activity #8

- (4) Diagnose, treat, and help prevent children's diseases and injuries
- (10) Diagnose and treat diseases and deformities of the human foot
- (2) Diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases and injuries of the eyes
- (5) Diagnose, treat, and help prevent disorders of the mind
- (7) Assess, plan, organize and participate in rehabilitative programs that help build or restore vocational, homemaking, and daily living skills
- (1) Provide therapy to patients with visual impairments to improve functioning in daily life activities
- (9) Administer anesthetics during surgery or other medical procedures
- (11) Assess, treat, and care for patients with breathing disorders
- (8) Assess and treat persons with hearing disorders
- (3) Provide therapeutic massage of soft tissues and joints
- (6) Provide radiation therapy to patients as prescribed by a radiologist according to established practices and standards.