

Community Helpers Interview

SOCIAL STUDIES / CIVICS



Overview

Students create mock interviews with community helpers (firefighters, doctors, teachers, mail carriers, etc.), learning about different roles that keep communities running.

Steps for Teachers

1. Brainstorm community helpers and their roles as a class
2. Students select a community helper to research
3. Students learn about the job's responsibilities, training, and daily activities
4. Students write interview questions and realistic responses
5. Students create interviewer and community helper characters
6. Students record the interview with appropriate backgrounds
7. Discuss how all community helpers work together

Example

A student interviews a firefighter. Reporter character: 'Thank you for joining us! What do you do every day?' Firefighter character at fire station: 'We do much more than fight fires! Every morning we check our equipment and practice rescue techniques. We visit schools to teach fire safety. When the alarm rings, we have less than a minute to gear up. The most important part of my job is helping people stay safe.' Reporter: 'What should kids do if there's a fire?' Firefighter: 'Get out, stay out, and call 911!'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Job Knowledge	Accurately represents the community helper's role	Shows general understanding of the job	Contains misconceptions about the role
Question Quality	Thoughtful questions that reveal important information	Adequate questions about the job	Superficial or irrelevant questions
Community Connection	Shows how this role helps the community	Mentions community service	Fails to connect job to community benefit
Interview Format	Natural conversation flow with follow-up questions	Recognizable interview format	Awkward or unnatural interview