

Veterinarian

There is a reason why veterinarian (or vet) ranks high on the career wish list of so many people. For animal lovers, what could be better than working with furry and feathered 'patients' all day? The pay is good. The average annual pay is over \$90,000. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, job prospects are expected to be much better than most careers over the next decade. And job satisfaction runs high.



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(Feel free to use the back of this sheet for longer answers)

What Do Veterinarians Do?

There are plenty of good reasons to consider being a veterinarian. But there is a catch. Veterinarians are medical doctors. Just like doctors who treat humans, vets diagnose and treat diseases, repair injuries, and perform surgeries. Also like doctors for humans, becoming a vet requires lots of schooling. It starts with getting excellent grades in high school in courses that include plenty of math and science. Then comes 4 years of college and 4 years of vet medical school. Most veterinarians work in private clinics and hospitals. Others travel to farms or work in laboratories, classrooms, or zoos.

Vet technician offers another path to working with animals. This route requires just a 2-year associates degree and prepares you to assist veterinarians in the care and treatment of animals.

CHALLENGE #1: Go online to find out...

What kind of skills you would need to do this job?

What would a typical day on the job be like?

What kinds of places could you work in?

How would you make a difference in the world?

Why would (or wouldn't) you like doing a job like this?

CHALLENGE #2: *Career Think Tank*

Next week is adopt-a-puppy week at your veterinary clinic! As a vet, you want to make sure that the families who adopt new pets know how to take care of them properly. That's why you are putting together an "everything you need to know about raising a happy, healthy pet" guide.

Make sure your guide includes tips for feeding, cleaning, and training the new pet. Don't forget to include a checklist for immunizations and well-puppy vet visits.

Both your human and canine clients will appreciate your expert advice as you help them get off to a good start.



Heavy Equipment Operator

Were you one of those kids who liked to play with toy trucks and cars when you were little? Now that you are older, do you like to watch big trucks and bulldozers do their thing at construction sites? Can you see yourself behind the wheel of a backhoe, loader, dump truck, or crane? As our nation works hard to improve and repair aging infrastructure, this is expected to be a high-demand occupation for years to come.



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What Do Heavy Equipment Operators Do?

Heavy equipment operators drive the big trucks and machines used to construct and maintain roads, bridges, airports, gas and oil pipelines, tunnels, buildings, and other structures. Most work on solid ground, but some work with cranes and other heavy equipment on skyscrapers, oil rigs, and other challenging locations. Heavy equipment operators must have a high school diploma and special training to qualify for the job. Apprenticeship programs--where new workers get supervised, on-the-job experience--are how many heavy equipment operators prepare for the job. They must obtain special driver's licenses, and depending on the laws of the state where they work, may need to get special certification. A special perk of the job is seeing the results of their work take form in new homes and businesses, roadways, bridges, and other impressive structures.

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CHALLENGE #2: Career Think Tank

A school near the site of your latest construction project invited you to talk to their students about what it is like to be a heavy equipment operator. To make the experience fun for the students, you decide to make up a game to help them learn which heavy equipment machines do what.

Go online to find the names, images, and descriptions of common types of construction heavy equipment. Be sure to include backhoe, bulldozer, crane, and more.

Use this information and your imagination to create a matching game.



Digital Designer

You see their work every time you play a video game, visit a website, or watch an animated movie. Digital designers combine creative talent with technical skill to deliver content that includes any combination of print, audio, video, and animation. As technology plays an increasingly important role in day-to-day life as people work, learn, and play, there will continue to be opportunities for digital designers.



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What Do Digital Designers Do?

Digital designers create content, graphics, and animation used in websites, video games, television, and more. They are different from graphic designers who develop layouts and pages used to share ideas found in printed material like books, magazines, and brochures. Digital design requires even more technical skill, which is why many employers look for digital designers who have at least an associate's degree in digital design or digital art. Digital designers must be proficient using a variety of digital design tools like Adobe's InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator. Of course, it is one thing to know how to use these powerful design tools. It's another thing to know how to use them to inform, educate, and entertain. Whether a digital designer is new or experienced, they must develop a portfolio of successful and very creative projects to prove their skills.

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CHALLENGE #2: *Career Think Tank*



Designers often use graphic organizers, called storyboards, to map out the sequence of content and images used in a website, film, or video game.

You can use them to plan a video to welcome new students to your school. Divide the back side of this page into four squares with room to sketch a quick illustration and space to add notes to describe the scene in each square.

In each square describe the places you would show, the people you would introduce, and the topics they would talk about.

Nurse



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Help wanted: nurses! Nurses play a vital role in the health care system and there will continue to be a big demand for new nurses in the coming years. Nurses are often the first health professional that patients encounter and perform a wide variety of health care functions. Nurses are needed to fill positions in hospitals, clinics, physician's offices, nursing homes, and schools.

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What Do Nurses Do?

There are several different levels of nursing with different educational requirements and responsibilities for each level. Licensed practical nurses, or LPNs, typically have one year of training and provide basic medical care in home health care, hospitals, clinics and nursing homes. Registered nurses, or RNs, need at least an associate's degree (and often a bachelor's degree) and work closely with physicians to provide direct care to patients. There are also growing opportunities for experienced nurses with advanced training to work as nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, and nurse midwives. These nurses perform many of the same duties as a doctor under the supervision of a physician. Future nurses often get a headstart with their training by participating in high school health academies and other types of health science programs.

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They say an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. It is almost flu season, so as the school nurse, you want to prevent an outbreak among your students.

Go online and talk to any health professionals you may know to find out the best strategies for preventing the flu. Gather as many specific tips as you can and mention any local resources that you find.

Organize your findings into either a poster or Powerpoint presentation to educate students about how to keep the flu bug away from your school.