Hi! I’m Carson the Career Cat! What’s your name?

Follow the Career Cat!

Just like my whiskers make me aware of things around me, I’ll help you develop career awareness for discovering the thousands of career opportunities in our big world!
Developed by Oregon’s Partnership for Occupational and Career Information, a partnership among the Oregon Career Information System, Oregon Employment Department, Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development.

Questions: Contact Jason.M.Payton@oregon.gov, 503-947-1233.

To download this publication, go to the Careers box on the Publications page at www.QualityInfo.org
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Activities in this booklet are based on Careers are Everywhere! Texas Workforce Solutions, Labor Market and Career Information.
We are going to look at groups of careers that have something in common. You may find some of the careers more exciting than others. As you continue your career journey, you may want to look closely at other occupations that fit in the groups you like best.
Careers are often grouped together based on something they have in common. Imagine your teacher asks everyone in your class what their favorite snack is. Then your teacher has all those whose favorite snack is popcorn go to one part of the room, those whose favorite snack is chips go to another part of room, and so on. You and your classmates would then be grouped together based on your favorite snacks. Here are the groups of careers you will explore with Carson.

People in **realistic careers** generally like to work with things more than people. They usually are good at working with their hands or playing sports. They like to work indoors and with tools and machines.

People in **investigative careers** generally like to explore and understand events. They usually are good in math, science, and working to solve problems.

People in **artistic careers** generally like to work with creative ideas and express themselves rather than work within routines and rules. They are usually good in art, enjoy creating their own projects, and have a good imagination.

People in **social careers** generally like to help, teach, and give people advice. They usually like to be around other people, are interested in how people get along, and like to help other people with their problems.

People in **enterprising careers** generally like to persuade others or give them directions rather than working with things or ideas. They usually like to be a group leader.

People in **conventional careers** generally like to follow orders and directions, and do not like work that does not have clear instructions. They are usually good in math, like to organize things, and like to work indoors.

Which groups do you think sound the most interesting?
Realistic Careers for Doers

People in these careers generally like to work with things more than people. They usually are good at working with their hands. They like to work indoors and with tools and machines.

Electrical Engineers

Electrical engineers plan, test, and help build many types of electrical and electronic equipment. They design appliances and other machines run by electricity. TVs, computers, and robots are just some of the things they design.

List three electrical items in your home that an engineer probably designed.

1. 
2. 
3. 

Etchers and Engravers

Etchers and engravers put letters or designs on different types of metals or wood. They can also engrave jewelry or trophies.

Pretend you’ve won first place in a competition of some kind. (Examples: soccer tournament or piano recital.) Write your name, a date, and the type of award on the trophy below.
Landscaping and Grounds Keeping Workers

Landscaping and grounds keeping workers landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand tools, power tools, or other equipment. They typically perform tasks like sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking, and sprinkler installation.

If you were tasked with choosing plants or trees for a yard, which would you choose? Draw some in the box below.

---

Roofers

Roofers put roofs on new buildings. They also repair and replace damaged roofs. They work on flat or slanted roofs. Sometimes they work on top of really tall buildings. Roofers also work with many types of materials.

In the space below, draw a type of building a roofer would work on.

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How much schooling do they need?

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<td>Veterinarians</td>
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<td>Web Developers</td>
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Web Developers
Web developers design, create, and modify websites. They analyze user needs to implement content, graphics, performance, and capacity. They may integrate Web sites with other computer applications and use software designed to facilitate the creation of multimedia content.

Veterinarians
Veterinarians diagnose and treat illnesses and injuries of animals. They may work with household pets or farm animals. Some do research to improve animal health.

Find a website that you think would be fun to browse because of the way it looks.

How much do they pay?

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What other careers might be in the realistic category?
INVESTIGATIVE CAREERS FOR THINKERS

People in these careers generally like to explore and understand events. They usually are good in math, science, and working to solve problems.

**Dieticians and Nutritionists**

Dieticians and nutritionists study how our bodies use the foods we eat. They help people choose foods that will keep their bodies healthy. They teach people about the basic food groups, vitamins, minerals, fats, and fiber. They plan menus for patients in hospitals or for cafeterias in places like schools and assisted living and nursing homes.

**Computer User Support Specialists**

Computer user support specialists provide technical assistance to computer users. They answer questions or resolve computer problems for clients in person, via telephone, or electronically.

*See if you can list four things that computers now do for businesses or people that used to be done by hand.*

*Draw a healthy meal. Try to choose foods from at least three basic food groups.*
Economists

Economists conduct research, prepare reports, or make plans to address the state of the economy. The economy is the wealth and resources of an area or nation. Economists may collect, process, and analyze data from surveys.

What’s an item that you would like to buy for yourself? How much does it cost? If you are given a $5 allowance every week, how many weeks would it take you to save enough money to buy the item?

Forensic Science Technicians

Forensic science technicians help police investigate crimes. They collect, identify, and analyze evidence from crime scenes. They may specialize in areas like fingerprinting, handwriting, or biochemistry.

How much schooling do they need?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
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<th>Technical School</th>
<th>College Degree</th>
<th>Advanced College</th>
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<td>Computer User Support Specialists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dieticians and Nutritionists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forensic Science Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forest and Conservation Technicians</td>
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<td>Surveying and Mapping Technicians</td>
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</table>
Forest and Conservation Technicians

Forest and conservation technicians provide assistance regarding the conservation of soil, water, forests, or related natural resources. They may gather information about the size, content, condition, and other characteristics of forest tracts. They assist conservation scientists in managing, improving, and protecting lands and wildlife habitats.

On the top three leaves, write in three kinds of plants that you might find in a forest. On the bottom three leaves, write in three animals you might find.

Surveying and Mapping Technicians

Surveying and mapping technicians help study and map the natural features and man-made structures on the surface of the earth. They may take measurements and notes, make sketches, or use notes and sketches to make maps.

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**Draw a map that shows how to get from your home to your school.**
ARTISTIC CAREERS FOR CREATORS

People in these careers like to work with creative ideas and express themselves rather than working with routines and rules. They usually are good in art, enjoy creating their own artwork, and have a good imagination.

Fine Artists

Fine artists draw and paint or create other artwork like sculptures that express feelings and ideas. They use many kinds of materials. Some paint using oils or watercolors. Some draw using pencils or pen and ink. Others mold or carve things out of rock, plaster, clay, or wood.

List two places where the work of fine artists might be displayed.

1.
2.

Floral Designers

Floral designers trim flowers to make bouquets, sprays, and wreaths. They make up dish gardens and terrariums. They make what the customers want using the colors and type of flowers they ask for.

List five events that floral designers would arrange flowers for:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
Graphic Designers

Graphic designers make things look good so people will be interested in them. Some design book, magazine, and album art. Graphic designers may work on packages for products. Some of them create new wallpaper patterns or design greeting cards.

Find a package for a product you like that a graphic designer most likely created. List four things that you think made it look good:

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Interior Designers

Interior designers plan and furnish the interiors of buildings. They talk to customers about their likes and dislikes. They find out how much money a customer can spend and determine the purpose of the space (office, home, etc.). Then they decorate the area so it makes good use of space, is comfortable, and looks nice.

Pretend you’re an interior designer. What changes would you make to your classroom or bedroom? Draw a sketch of how you would like it to look.

How much schooling do they need?

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<td>Floral Designers</td>
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<td>Graphic Designers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior Designers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multimedia Artists and Animators</td>
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<td>Writers and Authors</td>
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Multimedia Artists and Animators

Animators create special effects, animation, or other visual images using film, video, computers, or other electronic tools and media for use in products or creations, such as computer games, movies, music videos, and commercials.

Animators work with many objects from people to equipment. Find some of these objects in the word search below.

Writers and Authors

Writers and authors create original fiction and nonfiction books, magazines, television, radio, movies, and ads.

In the book to the left, write the names of your three favorite books on the left page and their authors’ names on the right page.
SOCIAL CAREERS FOR HELPERS

People in these careers generally like to help, teach, and give people advice more than work with things. They usually like to be around other people, are interested in how people get along, and like to help other people with their problems.

Childcare Workers

Childcare workers attend to children at businesses, schools, and private households. They may dress, feed, and play with children. The children they tend to may be infants, toddlers, or school-age children.

Childcare workers may spend time with children of all ages. List at least two activities they could do with each age group below:

- **Infant (0-1)**

- **Toddler (1-3)**

- **School age (4+)**

Dental Hygienists

Dental hygienists clean teeth and examine oral areas, head, and neck for signs of oral disease. They may educate patients on oral hygiene, take and develop x-rays, or apply fluoride or sealants.

Circle the tools or supplies a dental hygienist might normally use in a dentist’s office.
Emergency Medical Technicians

Emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, provide emergency medical care at the scene of an accident or in people’s homes after someone calls 911. EMTs find out the patient’s condition and decide the immediate treatment needed. They give emergency care following strict rules. When needed, they transport the patient to a hospital for further treatment.

Circle the safety items that help prevent injuries in accidents that EMTs might respond to. Cross out the items that can cause health problems and accidents that EMTs might respond to.

Fitness Trainers

Fitness trainers help people determine their physical condition. Then they help their clients set and reach goals to improve their fitness. They suggest exercises that will help each person. Fitness trainers also show the person how to do the exercise safely and for the best results. They may keep records of their clients’ exercise sessions in order to help them make progress towards physical fitness. Some fitness trainers lead exercise classes, such as aerobics.

How much schooling do they need?

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<td>School Counselors</td>
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</table>

Use the space inside the jump rope to write four activities that fitness trainers could have clients do to help them get physically fit. What’s your favorite physical activity? Write it below.
School Counselors

School counselors help evaluate students’ abilities, interests, and talents to set goals for school, work, and life. They work with individuals and groups of students. They also work with teachers to help classroom activities meet children’s needs.

Name three things that a school counselor should be good at doing in order to do their job well:

1. 
2. 
3. 

Training and Development Specialists

Training and development specialists manage and carry out training and development programs for employees. They study how adults learn and help workers gain skills to make them better at their jobs.

List three things you’re good at that you could teach others to do.

1. 
2. 
3. 

... Follow the Career Cat! – 14
What other careers can you think of that might be in the Social group?

Think about the people you have contact with every day. Use the space below to draw a picture of someone you know who helps, teaches, or gives advice to others. You may also color the picture if you wish.

How much do they earn?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
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ENTERPRISING CAREERS FOR PERSUADERS

People in these careers generally like to persuade others to do things or give them direction to do things rather than working with things or ideas. They usually like to be a group leader.

Ad Sales Agents

Ad sales agents sell or solicit advertising space, time, or media in publications, signage, TV, radio, or Internet establishments or public spaces.

Where have you seen an advertisement? List three places that you’ve seen an ad lately:

1. 
2. 
3.
Loan Officers
Loan officers review applications for loans. A loan is money that is borrowed with a promise to pay it back. Loan officers recommend approval or denial of a loan based on a customer’s financial status and help determine a repayment plan.

Suppose a friend wants to borrow money from you. What questions would you ask the friend to help you decide whether you’d loan the money or not?

Medical and Health Services Managers
Medical and health service managers work in medical, nursing, or other departments of a health care facility. They plan, organize, coordinate, and supervise personnel and patient care. Other duties include finance, in-service training, and information management.

Doctors are just one example of workers medical and health services managers supervise. Name three other types of workers they may supervise.

1. 
2. 
3.
### How much schooling do they need?

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<td>Real Estate Agents</td>
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**Purchasing Managers**

Purchasing managers plan and direct the activities of those who purchase things for companies. Companies need to buy things like materials, products, and services.

**What is your favorite restaurant? What are three things the restaurant might need to buy so you can eat there?**

1. 
2. 
3.
### Real Estate Agents

Real estate agents help people rent, buy, and sell property. They help people by studying property for sale, showing houses and land to people, and writing contracts.

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**What other careers can you think of that might be in the enterprising group?**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E W Z I K B H Z R X C O</th>
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<td>B O W X M B S G I U N B</td>
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Pretend you are going to open your own small business. Think about all the things you would have to figure out.

1) **What type of business would you like to open?** (What product or service would you sell?)

2) **Where would your business be located?**

3) **What supplies would you need?**

4) **What type of people would be your customers?**

5) **How would you advertise or market your product or service to customers?** (In other words, how would you convince them to buy your product or service?)

6) **What would you charge for your product or service?**

7) **Would you be able to make money at your business, after subtracting any costs from the money you take in?**
CONVENTIONAL CAREERS FOR ORGANIZERS

People in these careers generally like to follow orders and do things exactly according to directions. They do not usually like work that does not have clear instructions to follow. They are usually good in math, like to organize things, and like to work indoors.

Put the words listed below in alphabetical order. All of the words are things that the careers in the Conventional group work with.

FILE     RECEIPT     KEY     MAIL
PENCIL    FIRE       PHONE    RADIO
COMPUTER  SCANNER   LAW

1. 7.
2. 8.
3. 9.
4. 10.
5. 11.
6.

Accountants and Auditors

Accountants and auditors work with financial information, or the numbers telling how a business or person is doing with money. They may write reports and maintain a record of profit and loss, or the amount of taxes owed.

One slice of pizza costs $1.25. If you have $10, how many slices of pizza can you buy?
Administrative Assistants

Administrative assistants help their organization by conducting research, preparing statistical reports, handling information requests, handling mail and email, receiving visitors, arranging conference calls, and scheduling meetings.

Put a check mark to the left of the characteristics below you think would be especially important for an administrative assistant. Put a check mark in the box to the right for each characteristic you think you have.

- Well mannered
- Helpful
- Truthful
- Responsible

Archeologists

Archeologists study human life and culture from the distant past. They learn what they can about the past by digging up the artifacts left over, including bones, pottery, and buildings. They describe and record artifacts and try to determine what they mean.

An Egyptian tomb has just been discovered. Archeologists discovered hieroglyphics (ancient writings) on the walls of the tomb. Can you write your name in hieroglyphics?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How much schooling do they need?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accountants and Auditors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Assistants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archeologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical Records Technicians</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilots</td>
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<tr>
<td>Truck Drivers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Medical Records Technicians

Medical records technicians keep all paperwork for medical patients complete, up-to-date, and organized. These records include information the patient provides concerning his or her symptoms and medical history, results of examinations, test reports, doctors’ findings, and treatment plans. They use computers to keep these records and assign a code to each diagnosis and procedure. The records kept are important for patient care, insurance, and billing purposes.

See if you can put the following letters in the right order to make words that medical records technicians might find in the paperwork they handle. The first letter of each word is capitalized to help you:

- yrXa: ___________________
- cooDrt: ___________________
- itatPne: ___________________
- seiDsae: ___________________
- serNu: ___________________
- pyhraTe: ___________________
- eWhtgi: ___________________
- tHrea: ___________________

Pilots

Pilots fly planes, usually on scheduled routes, for the transport of passengers and cargo. Pilots need certificates for the specific aircraft type used. Pilots can fly regionally, nationally, and internationally.

If you could fly anywhere in the world, where would you fly and why?

. . . Follow the Career Cat! – 22
Truck Drivers

Truck drivers transport goods all over the state, country, and world. Here, we are talking about truck drivers who transport goods in large trucks. Truck drivers might need to help unload the truck after transporting the goods.

_Pictured below are just three of the things a truck driver might transport. Use the space provided to draw something else a truck driver might deliver._

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hourly Wage</th>
<th>Less than $15</th>
<th>$15-$20</th>
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<th>$25-$30</th>
<th>More than $30</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accountants and Auditors</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

How much do they earn?

AWESOME!!
GENERAL ACTIVITY

See if you can figure out the pattern of numbered letters below to help you fill in the blanks and solve the puzzle. The completed phrase will tell you more about people in this group of careers.

Key:

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |
| 22| 18| 13| 1 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |

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Savings

Toys

Education
PLANNING AHEAD!

**DO YOUR BEST IN SCHOOL**

For now, being a student is your job. Do the best you can in school. Everything you’re learning now will help prepare you for the world of work.

Did you know that math, science, reading, English, social studies, and other school subjects are needed in almost every career?

**MATH**

Careers like accountants and auditors, loan officers, and advertising sales agents use basic math skills. How would an accountant work with finances if he couldn’t add or subtract? How would a loan officer figure out how much money someone can afford to borrow if she couldn’t work with percentages?

Careers like landscapers and roofers need shop mathematics. How could roofers accurately measure materials for a roof if they couldn’t figure dimensions?

Careers like surveying and mapping technicians need applied mathematics, and careers like electrical engineers and economists need advanced levels of math.

**SCIENCE**

Careers like fitness trainers and archeologists use practical applications of science in their daily work. Applied science is important for careers like forensic science technicians, emergency medical technicians, medical records technicians, and dieticians and nutritionists. Careers like veterinarians require advanced levels of science.

**READING AND ENGLISH**

Every career today requires good communication skills, including the ability to read and write English well. Everyone from artists to electrical engineers must be able to read written instructions and rules, understand others when they talk, and communicate well with coworkers, supervisors, and customers.
The Oregon Employment Department is an equal opportunity agency. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Language assistance is available to persons with limited English proficiency at no cost.

El Departamento de Empleo de Oregon es una agencia que respeta la igualdad de oportunidades. Disponemos de servicios o ayudas auxiliares, formatos alternos y asistencia de idiomas para personas con discapacidades o conocimiento limitado del inglés, a pedido y sin costo.