

Cool Careers with Animals

Supplemental Resource

Objective: Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of at least two animal-related careers and write about a career they think may be a good fit for them.

Materials

- Kind News magazine career feature article, Street veterinarian: [Jan/Feb 2025](#)
- Animal jobs article at [KindNews.org/animaljobs](https://www.kindnews.org/animaljobs)
- Animal career quiz at [KindNews.org/animal-career-quiz](https://www.kindnews.org/animal-career-quiz)
- (Optional): Kind News magazine career feature articles in these [archived issues](#):
 - Animal shelter manager: Jan/Feb 2026
 - Urban ecologist: Jan/Feb 2023
 - Board game designer: Sep/Oct 2022
 - Entomologist: May/Jun 2021
 - Dog photographer: Sep/Oct 2021



Before the lesson (5-10 minutes)

- Preview the article, “At Work in Veterinary Medicine” from the [Kind News Jan/Feb 2025 issue](#) (pages 4-5)
 - For younger students, the [Kind News, Jr. article](#) may be used
- Preview the [Animal Career Quiz](#)
- Preview the [“Cool Careers with Animals” article](#)

Read the article (10-15 minutes)

Read the magazine article together or in small groups. Ask these questions afterward:

- What do they think the hardest part of being a veterinarian or a veterinary technician is?
- Would they want to do a job like this when they grow up? Why or why not?
- Think about something that you do that you enjoy, but is also hard sometimes. Why do you keep doing it?



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Extension Activity: “My Dream Career” (15-20 minutes)

Students can work in small groups of three or four to role-play a veterinarian or veterinary technician, a pet owner, and a pet during an appointment. Ask the rest of the class to guess who is playing which role and how they know, and think of one thing the group did really well.

Recommended for Grades 3 and up (45-60 minutes, although research time needed will vary)

Ask students to take the quiz, “What Animal Career is Right for Me?” or read aloud quiz questions or show on a projector: KindNews.org/animal-career-quiz

Ask those who are comfortable sharing their results to do so: Did the quiz say they might like a hands-on animal job? A teaching job? A creative job? Give them a few minutes to read a little more about different types of animal jobs at KindNews.org/animaljobs

Ask students to pick an animal career that they want to learn more about and give them time to research it using library books, websites, or interviews. They can use the questions below to guide their research:

- What might a typical day be like for someone in this career?
- What kind of training and experience are needed to have this career?
- What are some typical stressors in this career? What are some ways it can also be rewarding?
- What kinds of animals do people with this career get to help?
- What is one interesting fact about this career that surprised you?

Wrap-up: Optional share (10-15 minutes)

Students can present what they have learned in an engaging way, such as a short story that depicts a day in the life of a real or imagined animal professional, or via an interactive slideshow with visuals.



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Additional Extension ideas

- Students can choose to interview someone in their community who has a career involving animals and share one or two interesting facts they learned with the class.
- Watch an interview or clip from a professional who works with animals.
 - Ask students to come up with additional questions they have after viewing it. Discuss what they have learned. How does this person help animals in their community?
- Read “Incredible Careers with Animals: Being an Entomologist” from the May/June 2021 issue of Kind News (pages 4-6)
 - After reading the article once, discuss what animal professionals work in your community, such as animal shelter staff, veterinarians, or animal behaviorists.
 - Invite an animal professional to speak to your class, either virtually or in person.
 - Before watching the clip or hearing from the speaker, ask students to reread the questions that Kind News asked Morgane, the entomologist. What do students notice about how the questions are written? Ask students to write five to seven open-ended questions ahead of time that they would like to ask.



To learn more about the RedRover Readers program and to take the training, visit RedRover.org/Readers. To learn more about Kind News magazine, visit KindNews.org.

