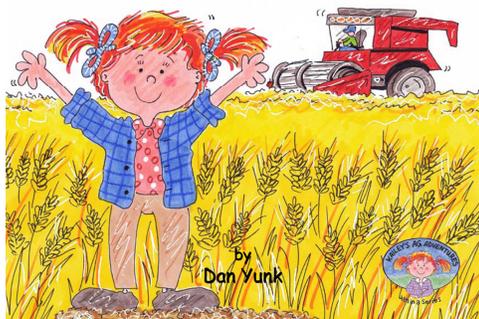


I Work with Wheat

A Lesson on Careers in the Wheat Industry

Celebrate Wheat



A lesson based on the book, Celebrate Wheat, by Dan Yunk.

America's food supply is safe, affordable and abundant but misunderstood by the public. Kansas Farm Bureau seeks to improve consumer knowledge of the importance of farming and ranching through the *Kailey's Ag Adventure Series*, of which this book is a part.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

After reading Celebrate Wheat, we learned wheat provides us with many products, one in particular is pizza crust. But, in order for us to enjoy all that wheat can provide, people work to produce, process, and distribute those products. So, who works with wheat? Let's learn about careers in the wheat industry while practicing our writing skills.

The first career many people think of when talking about wheat is farming. Many farmers do, in fact, work with wheat. Kansas has about 63,000 farmers, including almost 5,600 women farmers. About 20,000 farmers grow wheat. (*Source: Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service*) But other people have careers in the wheat industry, too. What careers can you think of?

ACTIVITY 1:

Pass out a copy of handout 1 to the students OR use a transparency of the handout on an overhead project.

Let's take a step into some careers in the wheat industry. For each career, I will tell you who I am and your response will be "and I work with wheat!" Let's try the first career—farming.

The teacher says: I'm a farmer ...

Students choral response: ... and I work with wheat!

NOTE: A choral response is used in teacher-led activities when all students in the class respond orally in unison to a teacher prompt. An easy prompt is a hand gesture. For example, with this activity, the teacher could point to him or herself when saying I'm a farmer and then open their hands toward the class as the prompt for their choral response.

LEVEL:
1st – 2nd grades

SUBJECTS/STANDARDS:

Writing: 1st Grade

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.1.8

With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

Standards may be adjusted to fit other grade levels.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:

Students will discover 8 careers in the wheat industry by practicing their writing skills.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will write sentences using correct spacing, capitalization, and punctuation, while identifying the careers the sentences describe.

ESTIMATED

TEACHING TIME: 30 minutes

Read out loud the statement about the career from the handout . The teacher may choose to have students read the descriptions aloud, if the reading level is appropriate. After reading the description, use the actions on handout 2 to help students associate specific actions with the careers.

For example, with the farming career:

We are all now farmers. You have planted and then harvested all your wheat! Now, wipe your brow in relief with a smile. Demonstrate the action to the class.

Continue with the next career. Start with the choral response, read the description aloud, and then perform the corresponding action. Continue the same procedure with each career.

Let's review these careers. After I say a sentence, decide which career I am describing and perform that action. *Use the sentences from the worksheet or create your own. For example, "I plant and harvest wheat." Students should do the action of a farmer.*

Pass out the worksheet (2 pages). Remind students about correct spacing, capitalization, and end punctuation, if necessary. Please note this lesson is designed to provide practice on these writing skills, not necessarily the methods of how to teach these skills.

After reading Celebrate Wheat, we have discovered wheat provides us with many products we enjoy and many careers for people across Kansas!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The following are additional activities that can be used to teach about careers in the wheat industry.

Career Stations:

Create 8 different stations where students travel to each station in small groups to read about the careers. Group students by making copies of handout 2 and cutting out each career into "Career Cards." Pass out the cards to randomly divide students into 8 equal groups. Those groups then start out at the station that corresponds with their Career Card and move in a designated rotation at the teacher's prompt. For example, students will move clockwise at the sound of a whistle, buzzer, etc. Pass out the worksheet (2 pages). Remind students about correct spacing, capitalization, and end punctuation, if necessary.

Career Trading Cards:

Make copies of Handout 1 for each student on cardstock. Cut out each career to create "Career Cards." Pass out 8 Career Cards to students randomly. It is their task to cooperate with other students to trade cards to create a complete set of all 8 Career Cards. Both members of the trade must agree to the trade. A teacher should set trading rules that apply to their class. For example, you cannot trade more than one card with the same person. However, with smaller classes, it may be no more than two cards with the same person or so on. Pass out the worksheet (2 pages). Remind students about correct spacing, capitalization, and end punctuation, if necessary.

NEW VOCABULARY:

Career
Miller
Elevator
Food Scientist
Grain Science Researcher

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Celebrate Wheat
Copies of Handout 1*
Copies of Handout 2*
Copies of Worksheet
(2 pages)

*Optional: Use transparencies and an overhead projector instead of copies.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS:

Career Cards (See Additional Activities for details)

PREPARE AHEAD:

Make copies prior to class

I Work with Wheat

I'm a Farmer...

I prepare the ground for planting, and then plant and care for the wheat plants as they grow. Then, I must harvest the wheat at the right time. I use equipment, like a tractor and combine, to help me do my job. I also decide when to sell the wheat I produced.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Truck Driver...

I deliver the wheat to where it needs to go. Sometimes that is to the elevator to be stored, or to a mill, or to bakeries and stores. I inspect my truck and trailer for safety and follow safe practices when driving.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm an Elevator Worker...

I work at the elevator where wheat is stored until it is sold. I weigh the loads of wheat that farmers bring in and test samples for quality. The price a farmer gets depends on its grade. The better the grade, the more money the farmer receives.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Miller...

I take the raw wheat kernels and grind them into flour. I work with specialized equipment and technology that makes milling today more efficient and easier than before. With today's machines, it takes only hours to turn kernels into flour.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Baker...

I use the flour from the miller to bake bread, pizza crusts, pastas, pastries, cereal, and much, much more! I know how to use the right kind and amount of flour, as well as the proper baking techniques to make a tasty product.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Grocery Store Worker...

I sell products made from wheat. I sell the food products baked by the baker, as well as sacks of flour from the miller so you can bake food at home with flour. I stock shelves with food products or work the register at check-out.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Food Scientist...

I do research on food. Lots of food products use wheat as an ingredient. Sometimes I create new products to meet the consumer's needs. Other times I improve existing food products. In the end, my work ends up in the grocery store.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Grain Science Researcher...

I research and test new uses for wheat and its byproducts, like the wheat stubble left in the field after harvesting. Researchers like me have found uses for wheat in products used everyday, like cosmetics, fuels, plastics, and more.

...and I work with Wheat!

I Work with Wheat

I'm a Farmer...

You have planted and then harvested all your wheat!

Action: Wipe your brow in relief with a smile.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Truck Driver...

It's your duty to deliver the wheat to its destination!

Action: Drive the truck.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm an Elevator Worker...

You test samples of wheat to check how it should be graded on a scale from 1 to 5.

Action: Count to 5 with your hand.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Miller...

You use equipment to grind kernels to produce flour.

Action: Grind the kernels with your fist.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Baker...

You bake bread and other good things to eat with flour from the miller.

Action: Knead the bread dough.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Grocery Store Worker...

It's your responsibility to stock the shelves with food and products made with wheat.

Action: Stock the shelves.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Food Scientist...

Use your creativity and your taste buds to create new food products.

Action: Test taste food product.

...and I work with Wheat!

I'm a Grain Science Researcher...

You have the task to use your brain to research new uses for wheat.

Action: Point to brain to think.

...and I work with Wheat!

I work with wheat, but who am I?

Name _____

Rewrite the sentences next to the career it describes, using correct capitalization and punctuation.

I create new food products

I deliver wheat

I grind wheat into flour

I plant and harvest wheat

I research new uses

I stock the shelves

I grade wheat

I bake bread

1. Farmer

2. Truck Driver

3. Elevator Worker

4. Miller

I work with wheat, but who am I?

5. Baker

6. Grocery Store Worker

7. Food Scientist

8. Grain Science Researcher

I Work with Wheat!

I work with wheat, but who am I?

Name ANSWER KEY

Check for capitalization, punctuation, and correct spacing.

1. Farmer: I plant and harvest wheat.
2. Truck Driver: I deliver wheat.
3. Elevator Worker: I grade wheat.
4. Miller: I grind wheat into flour.
5. Baker: I bake bread.
6. Grocery Store Worker: I stock the shelves.
7. Food Scientist: I create new food products.
8. Grain Science Researcher: I research new uses.