

# The missing words



Concept:  
**Career/life skills  
vocabulary**



Recommended:  
**1st grade**



Length:  
**20-65 minutes**

## About this lesson

In this lesson, students listen to a brief story about Coco the cow, choose words from a list to fill in the blanks, brainstorm alternate jobs for Coco, and draw her in a new job. While we suggest 1st grade for this activity, you can adapt it to suit the needs and interests of your class.

## Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Identify and use basic career and life vocabulary
- Listen to others and share ideas about different careers
- Generate ideas through brainstorming while explaining their thinking

## Driving question

How can the things I like help me pick a career?

## Future ready skills

Communication

Critical thinking

Decision making

Problem solving

## Lesson breakdown

20-25  
minutes

### Activity 1 - Coco the cow story

In this activity, students explore basic career and life vocabulary, as they follow the story of a job-seeking cow on their worksheets. Students will fill in blanks to complete the story as they listen.

40-45  
minutes

### Activity 2 - Coco's new career

In this activity, students brainstorm alternate jobs for Coco and draw her in a new role with job-related tools.

## In-app My Files

Upload a photo of students' Coco the Cow worksheets and drawings to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad**.

## Lesson vocabulary

- Interests
- Employee
- Career
- Skills
- Business

# Coco the cow story



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## Inquiry prompts

- What does it mean to be interested in something?
- What is something you're interested in?
- How can things you're interested in help you pick a job?

## Instructions

In this activity, students listen to a brief story about a cow who wants to find a job and use a worksheet to fill in the blanks with missing words.

- 1 Print copies of the [Coco the Cow - worksheet](#) for your students.
- 2 Write the missing words from the worksheet on the board (interests, skills, employee, career, business) and have a discussion about what each word means:
  - Interests: Things you like (e.g., "Coco likes grass").
  - Skills: Things you are good at (e.g., "Coco is good at mooing").
  - Employee: Someone who has a job.
- 3 Read the story to your class as they follow along on their worksheets.
- 4 Fill in the blanks together. Ask students which word fits best in each spot and have them copy it from your list on the board or by guiding them to the correct word on the top of their worksheet.

## Materials required

- White board and marker
- [Coco the Cow - worksheet](#)

## Artifacts

Upload a photo of students' completed worksheets to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad**.

## Choose a word to fill in the blanks

interests    employee    career    skills    business



Coco Cow wanted a job!



“What do you like to do?” asked Parker Pig.

“My \_\_\_\_\_ are walking in the field and eating grass” said Coco.



“What are you good at?” asked Daisy Dog.

“My \_\_\_\_\_ are mooing and shooping flies with my tail” said Coco, proudly.



“Do you want to own a store and sell things?” asked Hazel Horse.

“No, I do not want to run a \_\_\_\_\_,” said Coco.



“Then you want to work for someone else!” cried Rex Rooster.

“Yes, I want to be an \_\_\_\_\_!” said Coco.



Coco was happy. She had a long \_\_\_\_\_ as a cow ahead of her, working for Farmer Miguel.

# Coco's new career



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Recommended:  
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Length:  
**40-45 minutes**

## Inquiry prompts

- What are examples of different jobs?
- What are some tools workers use in their jobs?

## Instructions

In this activity, students brainstorm different jobs for Coco and draw a picture of her doing a new job along with a tool she might use in the job.

- 1 Have students brainstorm different jobs for Coco.
- 2 Ask each student to draw a picture of Coco at one of the jobs along with one tool she might use for it. Use the following examples to help guide students:
  - What if she had decided to be a pilot or a plumber?
  - What would she do in those jobs? What tools would she need to use? What skills would she need?
  - What things do you think pilots are interested in? What about plumbers?
- 3 Compile students' drawings into a book for the classroom and, as a class, create a story about the pictures. You can use the class book for story time, or distribute copies for students to take home and enjoy.

## Materials required

- Paper
- Crayons or markers

## Artifacts

- Upload a photo of students' completed Coco drawings to the **My Files** app on their **Dpad**.
- A classroom book of students' drawings.