



## Career Splat

*Students will use clues to identify careers and learn the type of degree needed for each career.*

### Materials Needed

- Two 1-foot pool noodles or two fly swatters
- [Career Splat Slides](#)

### Instructions

1. Divide students into two teams.
2. Explain that one student from each team will come to the board where the slides are projected and hold a pool noodle or fly swatter. Read a job description (see next pages in this document) and instruct the students to use appropriate force to “whack” the career that is being described on the screen.
  - a. If the student guesses the correct career, their team gets a point.
  - b. If a student swats the wrong answer, the other player can guess. If correct, that team earns the point.
  - c. If neither player gets it right the first time, they can ask their team for help, but neither team earns the point.
3. Once the correct career is identified, the winning student can choose to identify the type of education needed for that specific career:
  - Two-year associate’s degree earned at a community college.
  - Four-year bachelor’s degree earned at a college/university.

If the student doesn’t want to guess, they can “pass” and the student on the other team must guess. Points are recorded as described on the slide:

- a. If the correct degree is identified, the team gets a point.
- b. If incorrect, their team loses a point.

Before moving forward, ask students to name examples of two- and four-year colleges near your geographic area.

4. Once the degree has been identified and points have been assigned, move to the next slide.
  - a. Show information about the individual career: education needed, entry salary, colleges in Nebraska that offer this career pathway, and the corresponding career field.
  - b. Identify the career field by the background color on the slide and match it with the career wheel.
  - c. Indicate if your school offers certain classes for that specific career.
5. Move to the next set of slides and continue the activity with two new students until you’ve explored all the careers.

**Environmental Engineer:** This person helps the world go green. They are involved in efforts to improve recycling, control water and air pollution, and convert waste to energy. They are passionate about saving our **environment!**

**Computer Programmer:** This person uses multiple languages, like Java, Python, and HTML to write software **programs** and develop web-based information systems.

**Welder:** This person wears a mask that allows them to see the intense fire that is created through the process of joining metal parts together; some may even work underwater.

**Dental Hygienist:** You can earn a prize for visiting this person – a new toothbrush! This person cleans your teeth by removing plaque and teaches others dental health habits.

**Social Worker:** This person helps children and families for a living. They might help a refugee family build a support system or a young, single mother find reliable childcare and a vehicle. A **social** job like this is super rewarding.

**Financial Advisor:** Someday you'll have a job and make some money. This person can help **advise** you on how to manage that money and reach your financial goals, like going on a Disney vacation or buying a new car.

**Farm Equipment Mechanic:** Have a broken tractor, combine, manure spreader, or hay baler? Don't worry! This person can fix it, no problem.

**Database Administrator:** These highly trained tech gurus use cutting-edge software to store and organize their company's critical **data**.

**Construction Manager:** This person may remind you of **Bob the Builder**, as they are **managing projects** to ensure they are completed safely, on time, and within budget.

**Registered Nurse:** This person takes care of you while you are in the hospital. They follow care plans and update your medical records.

**Special Education Teacher:** It takes a special person to work with extra special people. People who do this job need to be creative, patient, organized, and empathetic. If you love to help people who need a little extra help, you may find this job fulfilling.

**Accountant:** This gig is all about **counting** – profits and expenses. These people help organizations and individuals with tax returns, financial planning, estate planning, and business auditing.

**Food Scientist:** Ever wonder who comes up with all those new Oreo flavors or who tests the food we eat to make sure it's safe? Thank this person!

**Graphic Designer:** Almost everything you see on a computer screen started in the imagination of someone in this career. They deliver messages through photography, illustration, animation, and graphics. You can also see their work on t-shirts, books, and TV.

**Truck Driver:** These road warriors travel through all kinds of weather to deliver the goods we depend on.

**EMT (Emergency Medical Technician):** They are the first responders if there is a medical emergency in the community. Pull over when you see or hear their sirens.

**Preschool Teacher:** Someone in this career might have taught you your ABCs and how to tie your shoes. If you like little kids, you will love this classroom job.

**Marketing Manager:** They manage the people who write commercials or slogans and create other **marketing** tools. It's this person's job to keep the big picture in mind and help a team come up with the best product possible.