

Taxi Driver



Cluster: Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

Content Area Integration: Social Studies, Math, ELL

Background Information:

Taxi drivers drive taxi cabs, company cars, or vans to transport passengers. They take people to and from their homes, work places, and other locations such as airports or hotels. Many taxi drivers own their own vehicles and are self-employed.

Objective:

Students will gain an understanding of the work of a taxi driver, and how a taxi driver contributes to a community.

Hands-on Activity: Visit Our Town

Place three chairs in the front of the room to represent a driver's seat and two passenger seats in the back. Show the students a picture of a taxi cab and discuss how a taxi cab driver helps people in a community by driving them to their destinations. Discuss how passengers communicate where they want to go and what a taxi driver may say to them. Guide the students to understand that often the taxi driver visits with the passengers along the way to share information about the community.

Model a conversation that could take place between a taxi driver and passengers for the class. Follow this discussion by explaining to the class that they are going to create some imaginary taxi rides. Divide the class into teams of three, and ask them to create a role-play with a taxi driver and two passengers. The teams must have the taxi driver take the passengers from the school to a destination in the community. Allow time for each team to present their skit. Conclude by showing the picture of a taxi driver from the **I Can Be ...Series**.

Materials:

None

Journal:

Students will record whether they would like this job or not. Students should be encouraged to expand on their choice by drawing a picture and/or writing an explanation.

Independent Learning Center Activity:

- **Taxi Fares:** Place a variety of bills and coins in different envelopes labeled taxi fare. Have the students count the money in each envelope and record the taxi fare on a separate piece of paper.
- **Taxi Ride:** Have local maps available for the students. Ask them to trace a route between two destinations to represent a taxi ride. Have them write a description of the route traveled.
- **Meet My Passenger:** Have students imagine they are taxi drivers. Ask the students to write a story telling about their most interesting passenger.

Workplace Connection:

Invite a taxi driver, or chauffeur, to visit the class.

Evaluation/Comments:

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What I like about being a taxi driver is

What I don't like about being a taxi driver is

Who do I know in my community who is a taxi driver?

Why is it important to have a taxi driver in your community?
