Lesson 1: Discover Odd Jobs

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, writers. It's Margaret.

When I was young, there was one question that was really hard for me to answer: What job do you want to have when you grow up?

I was just a young kid, and I hadn't thought about it too much, so I didn't really know. I think I would usually just answer "animal doctor" because I love animals so much. I remember once I answered "lost treasure discoverer" and "yo-yo master," which just seemed to confuse everyone.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: How would you answer the question, "What job might you want to have when you grow up?"

HOOK 2

Maybe you said you'd like to be an electrician and help bring electricity to places where people live, learn, and work. Or maybe you said you want to be a video game tester who finds problems, or bugs, in new video games. Or maybe you said that you don't really know, and that's okay.

Today, I work as a writer. But, most of my childhood, I didn't know what I wanted to do when I grew up.

I remember there was a really cool television show that I used to watch called Odd Jobs. Each week, they would explore different jobs from around the world. In one episode, they featured a beekeeper who looks after bees and makes sure they can safely produce honey. In another episode, it was a food stylist who makes food look perfect for TV and movies.

By watching the show, I realized that there were jobs and careers I'd never heard of before, and some of them sounded amazing.

I recently discovered that a new version of the Odd Jobs show is still on, and right now, they are asking their fans to pick which job they should feature on their last show of the season. You get to choose.

The producers have narrowed it down to two really amazing jobs: a wildlife photographer and a voice actor.

Watch this video to learn more.

> *"Get ready, Odd Job Seekers. It's your turn to choose. The job you pick becomes the season finale. Will we go wild with the amazing world of the wildlife photographer? Or will you take us behind the mic, into the awesome life of a voice actor?*
>
> *Two incredible jobs. One epic finale. And you get to choose. Head online and tell us your choice: Wildlife photographer or voice actor."*

For the first time ever, Odd Jobs wants its fans to choose the final episode of the season. The show's website has lots of information about both jobs and interviews with a professional wildlife photographer and a voice actor.

These two jobs are both very different. But each one is interesting in its own unique way. It's up to you to decide which job you think they should make their final episode about.

Today, you'll watch videos, read interviews, and take notes about both jobs. You'll then choose which job you want featured as an Odd Jobs episode.

The notes you take today will help you write your opinion later, which you'll then submit to the Odd Jobs website to cast your vote.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

It's time to learn all about these two jobs. To get started, let's watch this video about the job of a wildlife photographer.

> *"Have you ever wondered who takes those amazing animal pictures you see in magazines and nature shows? Wildlife photographers.*
>
> *They travel all over the world to capture animals in their natural habitats, like rainforests, snowy mountains, deserts—even underwater. But getting the perfect shot isn't easy, because animals are wild and unpredictable. That's why photographers study the animals they want to photograph. They learn what they eat, where they sleep, and when they're on the move.*

They use big, heavy cameras and sometimes wear camouflage so animals won't spot them. A photographer might spend an entire week working and only get one or two great photos. But when they capture something amazing, it's all worth it.

Wildlife photographers help us see things in nature we might never get to see in person."

If you'd like to watch this video again, replay this step. Otherwise, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

Get your Wildlife Photographer and Job Notes worksheets.

At the top of your Wildlife Photographer worksheet is a transcript, which shows the exact words from the video you just watched.

On your Job Notes worksheet, you'll see a section for Wildlife Photographer here. This is where you'll take notes on details about the job—things you think are really cool or important, and anything you'd want to learn more about in a new episode.

When you take notes, you don't need to write in complete sentences. Just jot down a few words to help you remember what you learned and how you feel about this job.

Using your Wildlife Photographer worksheet, read the video transcript and take notes.

STEP 4

Your Wildlife Photographer worksheet also features a short interview with Jill O'Connor. She's a professional wildlife photographer whose photos have been featured on TV and in magazines.

For now, let's just read the interview. You'll take notes later on. If you'd like to read the interview on your own, pause the video now, or keep playing to hear me read it aloud.

Interview with Jill O'Connor.

Jill O'Connor on location.

Interviewer: What does a wildlife photographer do?

Jill: I travel to remote places in nature and take pictures of animals. I photograph lions, penguins, and bears. My photos end up in magazines, books, TV, and movies.

Interviewer: What's your favorite part of the job?

Jill: My photos can actually help protect animals. When people see a beautiful photo of an endangered animal, they might want to help save it. Also, every assignment teaches me something new about animals and nature.

Interviewer: What's challenging about your job?

Jill: Patience. Animals don't pose for pictures! I once waited in the mud for six hours just to photograph a rare bird. You also have to stay safe and keep your distance from the animals. Plus, there's the weather. I have to work in rain, extreme heat, or even when it's freezing cold.

Interviewer: Any advice for kids who want to be a wildlife photographer?

Jill: Start in your own backyard or a local park. Photograph squirrels, birds, insects, whatever you find. Learn to move slowly and stay completely silent. Also, study the animals you want to photograph so you understand their behavior.

If you'd like to hear me read this out loud again, replay this step. Otherwise, move on to the next step.

STEP 5

Reread the interview on your Wildlife Photographer worksheet, and add new information to your notes. Take notes on the details of the job and anything you think is really important or interesting to you.

STEP 6

Now we'll learn about the job of a voice actor. For this, you'll want to pay close attention to the voices of the animated characters.

> *I wish Cosmo and Wanda were here.*
>
> *I was baby deal and off my camera.*
>
> *Powerpuff Girls? I'm just as tough as Blossom and Buttercup. I'm hardcore.*
>
> *Raven from Teen Titans, Azeroth, Metreon, Xinthos.*

It might not be obvious right away just by watching this, because what you don't see is the magic of voice actors.

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>
> *I was baby deal and off my camera.*
>
> *Powerpuff Girls? I'm just as tough as Blossom and Buttercup. I'm hardcore.*
>
> *Raven from Teen Titans, Azeroth, Metreon, Xinthos.*

Wow, that's incredible! This voice actor is adding the voices to different animated characters. To learn even more about the job of a voice actor, watch this video.

> *You know that cartoon character whose voice always makes you laugh? Or the villain in your favorite video game. Someone is behind those characters—a voice actor.*
>
> *Voice actors bring characters to life in cartoons, movies, and video games. They don't just talk normally. They create unique voices for each character, like a squeaky voice for a monkey, or a deep growl for a monster. Some voice actors can perform over ten different voices.*
>
> *They work in recording studios, standing in front of a microphone, and reading from a script. If the character is excited, their voice has to sound thrilling, and if the character is scared, they have to create the sound of fear. It takes a lot of practice because they can't use their face or body to express emotion, just their voice.*
>
> *Voice actors are similar to singers, but instead of music, they make characters come to life with their voice.*

If you'd like to watch this video again, replay this step. Otherwise, move on to the next step.

STEP 7

Get your Voice Actor worksheet. The top part is a transcript of the video you just watched.

On your Job Notes worksheet, find the section for Voice Actor.

Remember, you are just jotting down a few words to help you remember job details and things that you might want to learn more about in a new episode.

Using your Voice Actor worksheet, read the video transcript and take notes.

STEP 8

Your Voice Actor worksheet also features an interview with Kilian Cosmos. He's a professional voice actor. His voice acting has been featured in lots of cartoons, TV shows, and movies.

For now, I'll read the interview, and you follow along. If you'd like to read it on your own, pause the video now, or keep playing to hear me read it aloud.

> **Interview with Kilian Cosmos.**
>
> Kilian Cosmos on the mic.
>
> **Interviewer:** What does a voice actor do?
>
> **Kilian:** I use my voice to bring characters to life. When you watch a cartoon and hear the characters talk, that's someone like me in a recording studio. I've been a princess, a talking dog, a grumpy robot, and even a magical tree.
>
> **Interviewer:** What's your favorite part of the job?
>
> **Kilian:** Getting to be silly every day. Plus, I can often record from my own home studio, which gives me a flexible schedule. I also love meeting fans at events or conventions.
>
> **Interviewer:** What's challenging about your job?
>
> **Kilian:** Your voice has to do all the work. Movie actors use their faces and bodies to show emotion, but I only have my voice. If my character is sleepy, I have to

make you hear what it sounds like to feel sleepy. And sometimes I record the same line thirty times before it's perfect.

Interviewer: Any advice for kids who want to be voice actors?

Kilian: Read out loud every day and experiment with different voices. Make the villain menacing, the hero brave, and practice putting emotion into your words. Also, don't be afraid to sound goofy.

If you'd like to hear me read this interview out loud again, replay this step. Otherwise, move on to the next step.

STEP 9

Find the Voice Actor section on your Notes worksheet. Reread the interview with Kilian Cosmos and add new information to your notes.

STEP 10

Nice work, writers! You've now learned all about what it's like to be a professional wildlife photographer and a voice actor.

It's now time to decide which job you want to write your opinion about.

Think about which job seems the most exciting or interesting to you and would make a great episode for the show. For the job you want to see, check the box next to its title.

STEP 11

The papers shown on screen are V.I.P.s—very important papers. Your teacher will tell you where to put them so you will have them for the next lesson.

WRAP UP

Amazing job, writers! You learned about, and took notes on, two really interesting professions. And you decided which job you want to see as a new episode on the Odd Jobs show.

Right now, in the writing process, you are here, gathering information and forming your opinion. In later lessons, you'll use your notes to plan your writing, draft your opinion, and then revise and edit everything to make it clear, convincing, and exactly how you want it to be.

Once it's ready, you'll submit it to the Odd Jobs website to cast your vote. The show producers will then read all the entries, make their final choice, and announce the winning job in a brand new trailer for the episode.

I'll see you next time.