

Lesson Plan: Community Helpers

Grade Level: Preschool (Age 3-5)

Duration: 45-60 minutes

Theme: Community Helpers

Objective:

At the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

1. Recognize and name several community helpers (e.g., doctors, firefighters, police officers, teachers).
2. Learn the role that community helpers play in their own daily lives.
3. Take part in role-playing to understand careers in community helper fields.

Materials Needed:

- **Book:** "Whose Hands Are These?" by Miranda Paul or "Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do" by Kathryn Heling
- Community helper props or costumes (e.g., doctor's jacket, firefighter helmet, police badge, teacher's chalkboard)
- Toy community helper objects or tools (e.g., stethoscope, fire hose, handcuffs, books)
- Photographs or flashcards of community helpers and tools
- Crafting supplies: crayons, scissors, glue, paper
- Chart paper and markers

Preschool Lesson Plan Outline

1. Introduction (10 minutes)
 - **Greeting and Warm-Up:**
 - Call the children into a circle and sing a hello song to introduce the lesson.
 - Example: "Hello, hello, how are you? Hello, hello, it's nice to see you!"
 - **Discussion:**
 - Ask the children:
 - "Who helps us in our community?"
 - "What do you want to be when you grow up?"
 - Display pictures or flashcards of community helpers and briefly explain their jobs.
2. Main Activities (30 minutes)

- **Activity 1: Story Time (10 minutes)**
 - Read "Whose Hands Are These?" by Miranda Paul or "Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do" by Kathryn Heling.
 - As you read, have students guess which community helper is being written about.
 - After reading, go back to the list of community helpers mentioned in the book.
 - **Activity 2: Matching Game (10 minutes)**
 - Have flashcards or pictures of community helpers and tools laid on the table.
 - Ask the children to match the helper with the tools (firefighter with fire extinguisher, doctor with a stethoscope).
 - Ask the children why the tool is important for the helper's work.
 - **Activity 3: Role-Playing (10 minutes)**
 - Set up stations of costumes and props for different community helpers (e.g., doctors, firefighters, police officers, teachers).
 - Have them alternate dressing up and role-playing the professions.
 - Encourage them to utilize the equipment and act out situations (e.g., putting out a fire, teaching a class, checking on a patient).
3. **Wrap-Up and Assessment (10 minutes)**
- **Review and Reflection:**
 - Gather the children together in a circle.
 - Ask:
 - "What community helpers did we learn about today?"
 - "What is your favorite part about what they do?"
 - Sing a Song:
 - Sing "People in Your Neighborhood" (from Sesame Street) to remind students of the theme.

Assessment:

- Observe children during activities to assess whether they can:
 - Name correctly community helpers and their equipment.
 - Participate in role-play and discussions.

Extensions (Optional)

- **Field Trip:** Take a trip to a local fire station, police station, or hospital to meet real community helpers.
- **Guest Speaker:** Invite a community helper (e.g., nurse, police officer, or librarian) to the class.
- **Homework:** Have children illustrate their preferred community helper and share it with the class the next day.

Key Vocabulary:

- Community helper, doctor, firefighter, police officer, teacher
- Tools, roles, help

Differentiation:

- For younger learners: Highlight 2-3 community helpers and provide extra support in activities.
- For advanced learners: Introduce less common community helpers (e.g., librarian, mail carrier) or challenge them to describe what they would do in that role.