

Exploring Career Choices

Activity adapted from careercruising.com

In the chart below the first column identifies some examples of jobs that might appear obvious as to how they can be “green” by supporting the environment and helping reduce climate change effects, and others are not so obvious. Beside each, is an example of how the career is green or could be modified in order to make it so. There are several empty boxes at the bottom of this chart so that you and a peer can think of and record some other examples.

CAREER/JOB	HOW CAN IT BE GREEN?
Farmer	Organic farmers don't use chemicals (pesticides) or drugs (antibiotics)
Conservation Officer	Protects animals, parks & other land
Water Treatment Plant Officer	Removes pollutants from wastewater
Meteorologist	Study climate & the effects of pollution on it
Fashion Designer	Use recycled materials or ones that are sustainable
Teacher	Teach environmental studies throughout all subjects; guide students into green action
Tourist Guide	Share information on how to protect and conserve the area of interest
Lawyer	Environmental lawyer; lawyer supporting climate change action

Public Transit Driver	Helps to reduce the number of cars on the roads to reduce their emissions
Building Insulator	Installs insulation in houses and buildings to help reduce energy waste and the use of energy itself
Food Inspector	Tests foods to make sure there aren't pesticides or harmful products for humans
Hairdresser	Use products such as shampoo and conditioners that are free from chemicals and in recyclable containers

Review the dozen examples that are listed along with how that career directly is a green choice or how it can be adapted to be green. Then in their groups, they should brainstorm several more jobs that come to their minds or that interest them and fill in the second column as to how it would need to be modified to be greener.

Additional information, questions, and ideas are available at the Career Cruising website at careercruising.com should you wish to explore this further.