

# BOOKS TO GROW

## Kit theme: **Our Town - Community Helpers**

- Book titles included:
  1. **PIG PIG GETS A JOB** by David McPhail
  2. **GUESS WHO?** by Margaret Miller
  3. **CAREER DAY** by Anne Rockwell
  4. **NIGHT CITY** by Monica Wellington
  5. **TRASHY TOWN** by Andrea Griffing Zimmerman
- DVD: **EXPLORING COMMUNITIES AND ITS WORKERS**
- CD: **PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**



Additional titles available at the Johnson County Library:

**MY DAY YOUR DAY** by Robin Ballard  
**NIGHT WORKER** by Kate Banks  
**I WANT TO BE AN ASTRONAUT** by  
Byron Barton  
**BEAR ABOUT TOWN** by Stella Blackstone  
**SECRET PLACE** by Eve Bunting  
**CITY GREEN** by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan  
**WHEN I GROW UP** by Peter Horn  
**MY TEACHER'S SECRET LIFE**  
by Stephen Krensky  
**LITTLE FIRE ENGINE** by Lois Lenski  
**I WANT TO BE . . . Series**  
by Dan Liebman

**WHAT AM I?** by Debbie MacKinnon  
**JOBS PEOPLE DO** by Christopher Maynard  
**GOOD MORNING CITY** by Elaine Moore  
**WORK SONG** by Gary Paulsen  
**THANK YOU MR. FALKER**  
by Patricia Polacco  
**MAILBOX MAGIC** by Nancy Poydar  
**MY FIRE TRUCK** by Michael Rex  
**LYLE AT THE OFFICE** by Bernard Waber  
**HARVEY HARE POSTMAN**  
**EXTRAORDINAIRE** by Bernadette Watts  
**LIBRARY LIL** by Suzanne Williams  
**FIREMAN SMALL** by Wong Herbert Yee

See the back for activities to help children with these 6 by 6 *Ready to Read* early literacy areas:

*Have Fun With Books*  
*Notice Print*  
*Talk, Talk, Talk*

*Tell Stories*  
*Look for Letters*  
*Take Time to Rhyme*

## Activity Ideas - **Our Town: Community Helpers**

-With blocks, construct a small city that includes a grocery store, post office, library and park. What else would be included in your neighborhood?

-Play pretend post office with stickers as stamps. Have children draw letters to their parents, grandparent, etc. Can you find illustrations of postal workers in the books? What other props do you need for a pretend post office?

-Prepare several "prop boxes" that contain materials for role playing:

Grocery Store - play money, toy cash register (or old typewriter), sacks, paper for shopping list, (you can cut picture from magazines and glue on index cards for a visual shopping list), empty food cartons.

Cleaning - Spray bottle, small mop, broom and dustpan, rags, sponges, clothespins and clothes to fold or hang.

Beauty Parlor - Brushes, combs, clips, cotton balls, scarves.

Office - Old typewriter, post-its, pencils, paper, old phone

Restaurant - Place settings for at least four, tablecloth, menus, waiters, order pad, cash register  
(Adapted from Day Care Connection newsletter)

### **My Mother Works in a Bakery**

My mother works in a bakery, Yum, Yum.

(rub stomach)

My father works on a garbage truck,

P.U.! (hold nose)

Yum, Yum. (rub stomach)

My sister works for the phone company,

Blah! Blah! (hold phone to ear)

P. U.! (hold nose)

Yum, Yum. (rub stomach)

My brother works on a city bus,

Honk, Honk. (honk a horn)

Blah! Blah! (hold phone to ear)

P. U.! (hold nose)

Yum, Yum. (rub stomach)

### **My Hands**

My hands upon my head I'll place,

Upon my shoulders, on my face,

At my waist, and by my side,

And then behind me they will hide.

Then I'll raise them way up high,

And let my fingers fly, fly, fly.

Then clap, clap, clap, and one, two, three.

Just see how quiet they can be.

### **This Is the Way . . .**

*(To the tune of Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush)*

This is the way the baker stirs,

*(Stirring motion with hands)*

Baker stirs, baker stirs.

This is the way the baker stirs,

So early in the morning.

This is the way the policeman helps,

*(Motion helping children cross street)*

Policeman helps, policeman helps.

This is the way the policeman helps

So early in the morning.

This is the way the gardener plants, etc.

This is the way the pilot flies, etc.

This is the way the children learn, etc.

What else can you think of?

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