

Child Labor

What's Your Dream Job?

Subject: History/Economics/Visual Arts

Grades: 1-5

Skills:

- Primary source analysis
- Drawing
- Interpretation

Materials:

- Crayons or pencil
- Attached worksheet

Summary:

Children were made to work at a young age across America during the 1800s and early 1900s. Since families were often desperate for earnings, they sent the kids to work. This was easy to do because there were few laws requiring children to attend school or to provide regulations around child workers. Sadly, children often lost out on their educations and were put in harm's way while working with dangerous machinery.

Using the Unit on Child Labor, look at the image by photographer Lewis Hine of the Sweeper. Study what he is wearing and what his work "tool" was. Imagine what he did all day.

Discuss:

- What do you think this boy's work day was like?
- Think about what people do for jobs today. What are their work days like? What tools do they need? What do they wear to go to work?
- Today workers dress for safety on the job. Do you think this boy is dressed for safety?

Instructions:

Using the worksheets, look at the image of the Sweeper Boy, who is also on the website. Answer the questions under the photo.

Alongside the image, draw yourself doing work at what you think would be a nice job to have as an adult. Be sure to include what you would need for a tool and what you would need to wear. When you are done, answer the questions under the photo.

What's Your Dream Job?

Name: _____

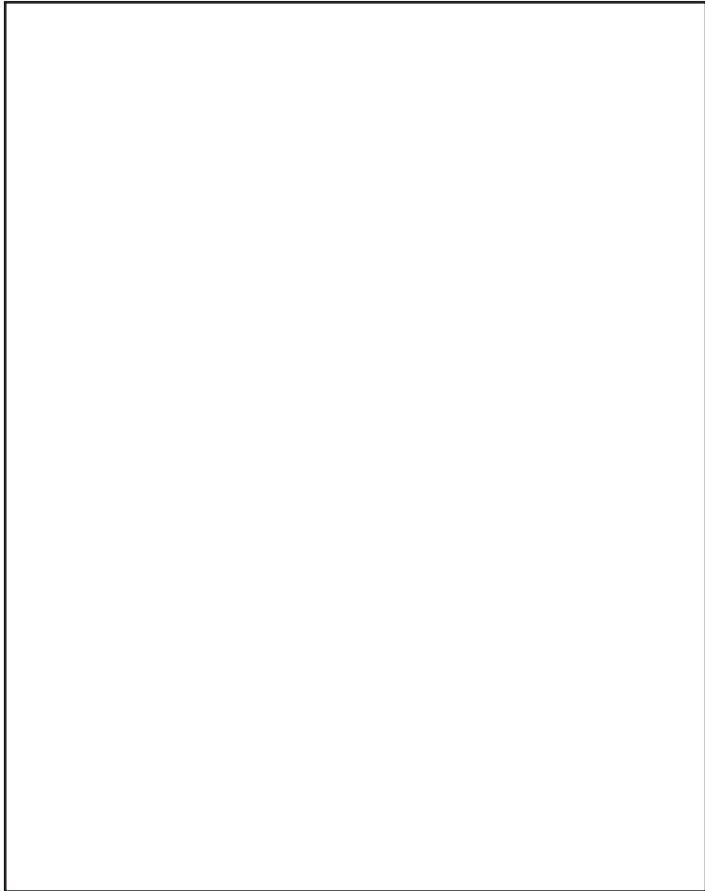
Date: _____



What does this boy do for a job?

What tool does he need?

What should he be wearing for safety?



What does your drawing show you doing for a job?

What tool or tools, would you need?

What should you wear for safety?
