

Student Page: Who Works in This Forest?

<p>Charlie</p> <p>Nothing helps you enjoy swimming in our cold northern lakes more than fighting a wildfire! Fires happen most often in the spring and hot, dry parts of the summer. Natural things like lightning can cause fires, but most fires are caused by people. I spend spring stationed in different parts of the state that have the highest fire risk. Sometimes we set controlled fires to limit the fuel that can cause a larger wildfire and decrease the damage from fire. My people, the Ojibwe, have done controlled burns for a very long time, to protect against wildfires and to clear and prepare land for planting the food we need to survive.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Kristen</p> <p>My classroom is the forest. As a science teacher at a school that uses an outdoor-classroom, my students need feel connected to nature through learning. My people, the Dakota, have relied on forest resources for as long as our history tells us. Although we have modern conveniences like grocery stores, it's important to know about these resources and what we all need to do to protect them for future generations.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Alex</p> <p>For me, being a lawyer was always more than just having a high-paying job. As an attorney specializing in Native American law, I work hard to protect the rights of the many Native people who call this place home, including protecting the rights of our non-human relatives such as water, air, trees, and animals. Most of my work focuses on making sure people honor treaty rights. I also make sure that development projects are thoroughly studied to determine the affect they will have on the people and the land.</p> <p>Learn more about Minnesota's 1854 Treaty: https://www.1854treatyauthority.org/about-us/who-we-are.html</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>

<p>Jamal Like all hydrologists (high-DRAHL-uh-jists), I'm interested in water. I look at water supplies, study watersheds and water cycles, and try to solve water pollution problems.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Haley I love numbers. And I get to deal with them each day: I'm a budget analyst. (A budget is a kind of outline of the money an organization expects to spend during a year.) I review the budgets people set up to make sure they're not spending too much money or spending money on the wrong things, and to make sure they're spending enough money on the right things.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Elinor How would you like to decide how a forest should be cared for? That's what I do all the time. I'm a forester. Being a forester can be tricky: I have to find the right balance between all kinds of needs, including the needs of people, plants, and animals.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Aaden When people ask me what I do, I tell them I have a dirty job. I'm a soil scientist. One thing I do is monitor soils to make sure they don't get smashed down, or compacted. I know that soil can absorb a lot of water from snowmelt and rain. But if the soil gets compacted, rainwater and snowmelt can rush right off, causing erosion problems.</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>
<p>Houa Are some living things more resistant to diseases and pests than others? Do some living things grow faster than others? Can these abilities be transferred to other living things, creating things that work better for them? These are the kinds of questions I'm trying to answer. I'm a geneticist (juh-NET-uh-sist).</p>	<p>Why is this job important? Explain.</p>