

# Why Do People Work?

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## **There is a difference between a job and a career!**

There are **jobs** and there are **careers**, and there is a DIFFERENCE.

A **job is a task** or an undertaking, which may be paid or unpaid. We all have many jobs during our lives.

**We have fewer careers.** The career takes in all of your life's work. Future occupations grow out of past experiences. The path of a career has already begun for you, because of all the work you are doing, and have already done.

List some jobs and some careers in two columns. Then ask students if some of the existing careers named on the list could be jobs. Why or why not?

**Why do people work?** This can be brainstormed with students, and all suggestions recorded where all can see.

**Money** helps with our basic needs of food and shelter. But people work for lots of other reasons too.

We also want to bring **personal meaning**, or define who we are with a job title. It makes us feel more real.

We can get lots of pleasure and **satisfaction** from work, which makes us feel secure.

Work makes us feel **capable** and maybe **powerful**. Doing a job well gives a worker a sense of responsibility and control that adds to our self-respect.

We work for **self-respect**. Doing a job well gives a worker a sense of control and responsibility. This adds to self-respect.

Our **time is limited** as a living person. Many want to fill each day with accomplishments or achievements.

Over time, these experiences become a real and a lasting part of what we see ourselves to be.

**Keeping score.** We work to see how we stack up with others. We feel better about ourselves when we accomplish a difficult task than when we do something easy. Many like public recognition, meaning the more lives we touch, the longer we may be remembered.

True job satisfaction comes from inside of each of us. Whether you make a fortune or just a living, it is less important than knowing that you made a contribution, and that you did your job well. We work to discover "who we are" and "why we are".