Question of the Week
Why is it valuable to have unique interests?

Key Comprehension Skill
Fact and Opinion

Concept Words
careers  choose
college  spacecraft

Learning Goals
• Your unique interests could become your career.
• Astronauts work in space.
• Gardeners help plants grow.

What Careers Interest You?
by Raquel Santiago
Have you ever wondered how some people choose their jobs or careers? Why does one person choose to be a doctor? Why does another person choose to be a car mechanic? How about a piano player, or a teacher, or a gardener? Many people choose a career because of what they like to do.

Do you like to help other children with their homework? Do you like to talk in front of a group? Maybe you would like to become a teacher.

You must work hard if you want to be a teacher. You will need to go to college to study how to do it.

choose: to pick, select
career: a job

career: a job
college: school after high school
Are you good in science? Do you like to go on long trips? Would you like to travel in space? Maybe one day you will choose to be an astronaut.

Astronauts are scientists. Some astronauts travel in space. In order to do that, they have to study hard and also train their bodies to be healthy and strong.

Astronauts have many chores to do in space. They work both inside and outside the spacecraft. They have to take care of computers inside the spacecraft. Sometimes they have to go outside to work on other parts of the spacecraft.

A person has to study for a long time to be an astronaut. Science and math are very important. They also keep their bodies healthy and strong.

**spacecraft**: a vehicle that goes into space
Do you like to work outside? Do you like to work with plants? Do you like to take care of plants and flowers? Maybe you will choose a career as a gardener.

Gardeners help plants grow. Some gardeners take care of trees. Gardeners work hard in the summer, but many gardeners work all year. Even in places where it gets cold in the winter, there’s plenty to do. Gardeners can take care of plants indoors, too.

Do you like to make cakes and cookies? Do you like to work in the kitchen? Do you like to bake bread? Maybe you will choose a career as a baker.

Bakers work hard, too. They start working very early in the morning, before most customers are awake. They have to know how to use an oven. Bakers have to know which flour to use for cakes and bread.

Extend Language One and Many

The word *baker* is singular. It tells you about one baker.

The word *bakers* is plural. It tells you about many bakers.

Do you know the plural of these words?

job career teacher book
Talk About It
1. Why do you think some people are happy with their careers? What might they like best about what they do?

2. What are some of the careers talked about in this book? What career would you like to have when you grow up?

Write About It
3. On a separate sheet of paper, write about a career you think you might like. What would you have to know to do it? What might a day at work be like?

Extend Language
A cook prepares food. An earth scientist studies the Earth. A singer sings songs. Make a list of as many careers you can think of.

What do you like to do? Do you like to help people? Are you good at art? Would you like to work with animals? It’s never too soon to start thinking about a career. You have many possibilities in your future. Good luck!