# Community Helpers

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
A Selective Annotated Bibliography

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EASY</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Follows a fire engine and its crew through a very busy day, using mainly sound words.</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>Brooks, Felicity. <em>Vicky the Vet</em>. London: Usborne, 2004. (Other titles in series include <em>Fred the Firefighter, Daisy the Doctor, and Frank the Farmer</em>)</td>
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<td>From <em>The Jobs People Do</em> series, this book describes the day in the life of Vicky, a veterinarian.</td>
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<td>According to Carmen, a fourth-grader at Liberty Elementary, her school’s librarian won’t tell students ANYTHING! Fortunately, her classmate Robert doesn't believe Carmen and marches right over to ask Mrs. Skorupski question after question. Mrs. Skorupski's eyes twinkle and her rhinestone glasses sparkle as she leads Robert to the tools he needs to find the answers. Carmen scowls as she watches Robert become a Library Success Story, but eventually comes around as she realizes that Mrs. Skorupski can teach them ANYTHING!</td>
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Percy does a grand job delivering the mail. But will anyone ever send him a letter?


While giving a tour of his new town, a young boy introduces the reader to his teacher, dentist, barber, and police officer, as well as to his newly adopted baby sister.


Illustrations and brief rhyming text depict police officers responding to a variety of situations, from a broken traffic light to a robbery.


A letter from someone who was once an exasperating second-grader reveals her experiences with a teacher who brought out the best in her.


Dorothy has always wanted to work in a library like the red brick one of her childhood, but after moving to rural North Carolina she discovers that the type of library is less important than the books and the people who read them.

Howell, Lauren. *If I Was the Mayor*. Winnipeg: Three Bears Pub., 2005.

*If I Was the Mayor* subtly introduces the concept of recycling, with an exciting, new twist, making this book an excellent tool to spark discussions about other environmental concerns and solutions, as well.


A cheerful repairman fixes squeaky doors, leaky roofs, and crumbling fences for his neighbors, who return the kindness when he catches a terrible cold.


Plush canine motorcycle police officers zoom through the town pursuing
suspects, clearing the road of accidents, and serving as escorts.


An alphabet story in verse about a Latino boy and his remarkable teacher who can teach an astronaut how to float in space and instruct a ballet dancer how to land with grace.


The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.


Caroline sets up a stand to sell her Grandmother's sweet lemonade to raise money for the new wheelchair her friend Shannon needs, which inspires others to help, as well, in bigger and better ways.


Although Ben is worried about his dog Aggie when the veterinarian spays her and while she recovers, he laughs at her problems with the cone she must wear on her head until her stitches are removed.


At sunset, when their work is done for the day, a crane truck, a cement mixer, and other pieces of construction equipment make their way to their resting places and go to sleep.


Construction workers ask Kristen, a young apprentice, to bring them snacks and supplies. Provides information on the workers' jobs and equipment.


Zoe helps Max feel brave when he has to go to the dentist to have two teeth pulled.

Shows and tells what busy people do every day to build houses, sail ships, fly planes, keep house, and grow food.


A little girl goes to a doctor for a checkup.


*Millie the cow loves to scare the mailman and chase him off the farm, until the mailman comes up with a plan that ends up pleasing everyone.*


Edward and his cousin Judy visit a firehouse and learn about the work of fire fighters, especially when they participate in a fire drill.


After dressing up as fire fighters, building a fire truck out of a cardboard box, and extinguishing imaginary fires on the playground, Mrs. Iverson's students are surprised by the arrival of a real fire engine with real fire fighters on board.


Little by little, can by can, Mr. Gillie, the trash man, cleans up his town.

**FICTION**


Juanita and Miguel's great aunt, Tía Lola, comes from the Dominican Republic to help take care of them after their parents’ divorce, and soon she is so involved in their small Vermont community that when her visa expires, the whole town turns out to support her.

Catalina 'Cat' Duran and her class are off to the recycling center for what seems like the worst field trip ever. But when they arrive, they find out that the recycling plant has been sabotaged! Only Cat and her friends can save the day (and help save the Earth, too)!


Upon learning that the city has sold his neighborhood park to developers, fifth-grader Eric Clark determines to help his community by getting his mother elected mayor.


Teens D.J. and Russell, life-long friends and neighbors, had drifted apart, but when their firefighter fathers are both killed, they try to help one another come to terms with the tragedy and its aftermath.

**NONFICTION**

Adamson, Heather. *A Day in the Life of a Child Care Worker*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2004. (Other titles by author include *A Day in the Life of a Emergency Medical Technician, A Day in the Life of a Firefighter, A Day in the Life of a Police Officer, A Day in the Life of a Construction Worker, and A Day in the Life of a Veterinarian*)

Explains how a child care worker plans activities, prepares lunch, and plays with the children.

Kalman, Bobbie. *Emergency Workers Are on Their Way!* New York: Crabtree Pub., 2005. (Other titles by author are *Firefighters to the Rescue! Hospital Workers in the Emergency Room, and Veterinarians Help Keep Animals Healthy*)

Fire fighters, police officers, paramedics, doctors, and nurses are just a few of the community workers that help people in emergencies. Children will be amazed by these brave individuals - many of whom risk their lives daily to save the lives of others.

A simple introduction to the work park rangers do, discussing where they work, what tools they use, and how they are important to the communities they serve.

520L  Doering, Amanda. *Whose Tools are These?* Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2012. (Other titles by author include *Whose Equipment is This? Whose Gear is This? and Whose Gadgets are These?*

Simple text and full-color photographs present a mystery community helper, one clue at a time, until his or her identity is revealed.


Simple text and photographs present doctors and their role in the community.

550L  Fluet, Connie. *A Day in the Life of a Nurse*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2005. (Other titles by author include *A Day in the Life of a Librarian, A Day in the Life of a Dentist, and A Day in the Life of a Doctor*).

Explains what nurses do during a typical work day.


Introduces the work pharmacists do, the equipment and clothing they use, the required education, and their importance to the communities they serve.


Follows a garbage collector through his day and describes his occupation and what his job requires of him.

N/A  Yanuck, Debbie. *Custodians*. Mankato, MN: Bridgestone Books, 2002. (Other titles by author include *Food Service Workers and Carpenters*).

A simple introduction to the work custodians do, discussing where they work, what tools they use, and how they are important to the communities they serve.


Introduces what couriers do, what their jobs are, and how they serve the community.