



WHEN I GROW UP...

DO you know what you want to do when you finish your education? There's no rush to decide, but it's always helpful to know what sort of jobs are out there. From journalists and doctors to zoologists and rollercoaster testers, there's a whole world of exciting careers for you to explore. Here we find out a little more for National Careers Week.



What is National Careers Week?

National Careers Week runs from 3–8 March. It aims to help young people think about their future careers and get excited about what's to come. This week is your chance to think about:

- your skills and interests.
- the different options open to you – would you like to go to college or university? Or would you rather do an apprenticeship or go straight into work?
- all the different jobs and careers that are available.

What's your dream job? Meet three people who turned their childhood dreams into successful careers...



Tim Peake, ESA astronaut

Tim always had a passion for adventure and flying, joining both the Cub Scouts and school Cadet Force as a young boy. At the age of 13, his dream of becoming a pilot became a reality when he took control of an aircraft for the first time! He later went on to serve in the Army for 18 years before leaving to work as a senior test pilot for AgustaWestland (now Leonardo Helicopters). Then, in May

2009, Tim's dreams reached new heights when he was selected as a European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut. In December 2015, Tim was launched into space, becoming the first British ESA astronaut ever to visit the International Space Station. His Principia mission lasted six months. Tim's achievements meant he was given the Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in the Queen's 2016 Birthday Honours for services to space research and scientific education.

Nicky Cox MBE, Editor in Chief of First News

Nicky helps to write and edit the newspaper that you're reading now – in fact, the whole paper was her idea! She said: "I had worked at the BBC for 14 years as editorial director of children's publishing. Before that I had been a journalist at national and local newspapers. It had always been my dream to create a children's newspaper.

I believe that for the world to become a better place, the next generation must be better informed than the last. My advice to anyone wanting a job like mine is to read a lot. Write a lot. Know what is going on in the world. See if you can get work experience on your local newspaper. Or, perhaps, start your own blog. Concentrate hard in English lessons to develop a good style of writing. Pick subjects like English, journalism or politics for higher education. And look out for trainee positions or graduate schemes, such as the BBC's. Contact the NCTJ (National Council for the Training of Journalists) for advice."

Marc Abraham aka Marc the Vet, veterinary surgeon

Marc is a veterinary surgeon, which means he cares for animals when they're sick or in need. He told us: "Quite simply, I really like making animals better. From a very young age I only ever wanted to help animals, so I'm very proud to live my dream every day – at three years old I removed a maggot from a nasty wound on my pet tortoise's leg using a twig! I love operating too; there's no better feeling than watching an animal that arrived in your clinic ill, leaving feeling better and wagging its tail!"



THE LOWDOWN

What's work experience?

Work experience gives you the chance to see first-hand what it's like to work within different companies and organisations. You can learn from experts, have a go at a range of jobs and discover different working environments. For example, being a teacher in a school will be very different to being a keeper working in a zoo or a journalist working in an office. Lots of you will do work experience placements at secondary school.

What about apprenticeships?

An apprenticeship offers you the chance to work and study at the same time. You'll be paid to learn while on the job, but you'll also get dedicated time out to study towards a qualification. Lots of companies now offer apprenticeships for those over the age of 16.



And what's a CV?

A CV (curriculum vitae, which is Latin for 'the course of one's life') is a document that you give to employers to tell them what your skills and qualifications are and why you'll be good at the job. It's wise to join clubs and take up hobbies when you're young, so that you can add them to your CV and show what kind of person you are.