

Teacher's Guide

Whose Shoes Are These? A Look at Workers' Footwear

by Laura Purdie Salas

Pre-Reading Questions

Why do people wear shoes?

What are your favorite shoes? What do you like about them?

Do your parents wear any particular shoes as part of their work uniform?

Can you think of any famous shoes? [Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, Ronald McDonald, etc.]

Questions

What would happen if a ballerina wore underwater flippers?

Who knows someone who wears safety boots at work? What's his/her job?

Why do you think lots of people want to buy shoes named after famous athletes?

Projects

Print out the shoeprint page (available on website) for each child. Each student cuts out the two shoeprints and writes his or her name on the shoes.

Language Arts: On one shoeprint, write about a job you might like to have when you're older.

Art: On the other shoeprint, make a collage of jobs that look interesting or fun. Write words, look through old magazines to find pictures, and draw your own pictures, too!

Social Studies: Talk about community helpers that wear special shoes.

Math: Make a graph of how many shoes of each kind (sneakers, sandals, boots) your class is wearing. Next, how many people are in your class? How many shoes does each person wear? So how many shoes is your class wearing today?

Motor Skills: Use lace-up boards to help kids practice tying their shoes.

Movement/Group: Use this as a fun way to pair kids up for any of the above projects. Have one-half of the kids put one shoe in a grocery bag. Have the other half of the kids close their eyes and choose one shoe from the bag. Without any noise at all, the kids with the shoes in the hands must find their partners among the kids wearing only one shoe.