# **EMPLOYMENT**

"The future depends on what you do today."

—Mahatma Gandhi

### In-demand careers

(NC) For many of us, working with children is a passionate calling that comes with the satisfaction of knowing you are shaping young lives. If you're one of those people who love to work with children, here are three careers for you to consider.

Teacher. When we think back upon our days as students, many of us have fond memories of a few key teachers who really made an impact on our lives. Whether it's helping school-age children learn to read or guiding teens through their post-secondary options, teachers have endless opportunities to leave an impression.



A career as a teacher can allow you to focus on your apssions as well as providing endless opportunities to leave an impression.

You can take a specialized approach focused on your passions. If you're a singer or musician, you can become a music or band teacher. Aspiring author? Become an English teacher. Sports nut? Then get that whistle around your neck and lead gym class.

It's also a family-friendly occupation as you get the same vacation days as the kids, including having the summer off to bond with your own children.

Speech therapist. A speech therapist or,

as those in the industry refer to themselves, a speech language pathologist (SLP), is someone who identifies, diagnoses and treats communication issues. The impacts an SLP can have on their patients are truly life changing.

Many therapists specialize in working with kids. Their patients may be slow to develop their language skills, have a stutter, suffer from hearing loss or even have difficulty swallowing.

The role includes using a mix of hightech medical equipment and hands-on treatment. SLPs work in partnership with educators, doctors, nurses and other therapists to help their patients.

Early childhood educator. An early childhood educator (ECE) specializes in teaching the youngest of children, from infancy to six years old during the most critical phase of brain development.

An ECE's role is to provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for children to grow and develop foundational skills such as walking, talking and emotional self-regulation. They also help with academic growth, setting children up for success in education later on.

An in-demand career, ECEs typically work at childcare centres.

Employment and Social Development Canada have a number of helpful sites that provide the following:

Information on education, training, financial assistance and the skills you need to find and keep a job. Visit

https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/t raining.html

Information on skills assessment and training tools visit

https://www.canada.ca/en/services/jobs/training/initiatives/skills-success/tools.html



(NC) Are you ready for a career pivot? Maybe you want to chase that employment dream you've had, level up your skills to try something new or just get a change of scenery. If you're considering taking this leap, here are three ways to make sure you have a successful switch.

1. Identify your strengths and desires.

Any new career path should be led by your strengths and experience. Are you an outgoing people-person? Then perhaps a client-facing job would be a good fit. Would you rather stay behind a computer? Then maybe data entry, design or a writing career would be ideal. Research different roles where your prior skills would be a sought-after benefit.

You should also think about what will give you job satisfaction. Do you love to explore new places? A role that requires travel could lead you to cities you might not otherwise get to visit. Do you enjoy the social interactions of office life, or prefer remote? Write your own "job listing" for your ideal position so you know where you're willing to compromise as well as your must-haves.

2. Understand the industry. Most industries have associations that provide training, networking opportunities and other support. See if there are any upcoming events that you can attend to learn more about the industry and start networking. You can also reach out to someone working in the field and set up a

short coffee meeting or phone call to ask them key questions about that career.

It can be hard to know if an industry will remain in demand or be sustainable, so do your research. Census data is free-to-use, online information that can help you track job trends, including which industries are growing and which are receding. Census data shows, for example, sustained growth in healthcare, skilled trades in construction and professional and technical services, this means there's an ongoing need for people to work in those areas.

3. Put yourself out there. Once you've identified the areas that appeal to you, don't be afraid to promote yourself. Use all the tools at your disposal: update your resume and digital professional profiles; ask friends and family if they have any connections in the field who might open some doors; and search online hiring platforms as well as industry-specific job boards.

Learn more about how you can use data to help launch your new career at census.gc.ca.

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