

## Everyday Things

Have you ever wondered how jobs come about? Jobs are created to solve problems—to provide a product or service that someone needs or wants. Sometimes people don't even know that there is a want, need or market for the service or product.

**For example, do you know who Steve Jobs is?** In 1973, in his garage, with a friend, Steve Jobs developed the personal computer that later became the Apple II. Now he is CEO of Apple, a leader in personal computers, which he co-founded in 1976, and Pixar, the Academy-Award-winning animation studios that he co-founded in 1986. Pixar has created four of the most successful and beloved animated films of all time: *Toy Story* (1995), *A Bug's Life* (1998), *Toy Story 2* (1999) and *Monsters Inc.* (2001). Pixar's four films have together earned more than \$1.5 billion box office receipts worldwide. Pixar's next films, *Finding Nemo* and *Pirates of the Caribbean* were released in the summer of 2003.

Big businesses and the government used computers. The computers were so big that they filled small rooms. However, Steve Jobs and others had the idea that every person needed a computer — a personal computer so small it would fit on a “desktop.” Every person would need his own computer as a part of his daily life. This was a revolutionary idea. At the same time, scientists at Texas Instruments and Bell Labs were advancing silicon chip technology. Voila! Personal computers. What other products and services have come from the computer explosion that started in the 1970's?

In this activity, you'll think about common objects to consider all the different kinds of jobs necessary to produce and deliver them. For example, how did construction work come about? Human beings need shelter, so people have jobs designing, building, advertising, selling, decorating and repairing homes.

Below are several everyday things. Think of as many career ideas as possible for each object. Be creative! For example, watermelon might elicit the following ideas: farmer, trucker, grocery clerk, food broker, chef, creator of a web site with recipes, creator of a web site that sells food.

### **Everyday object: chair**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: house**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: DVD Player**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: aspirin**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: telephone**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: car**

Career ideas:

### **Everyday object: computer**

Career ideas:

List here types of jobs you'd like to find out about: