Community Workers: Whose Hat is That?

Pre- and Post-Visit Activities:
Community Workers: Whose Hat is That?

Overview:
These activities, which support the Staten Island Museum’s lesson “Community Workers: Whose Hat is That?,” introduce students to the various jobs found in our community.

Background Information for Educators:
When you hear the words ‘community helpers’ or ‘community workers,’ you may think of police, nurses, and postal workers. To think of the terms more broadly, a community helper/worker can be defined as any person who helps with our health and overall well-being. Community helpers/workers include dentists, doctors, construction workers, even grocery store workers! It actually includes most jobs.

Vocabulary:

- **Architect**: one who designs buildings and oversees their construction.
- **Barber**: a person whose business is to shave, trim, or style hair and beards.
- **Community**: a place where people live, work and play.
- **Dentist**: a person licensed to care and treat specifically the mouth.
- **Doctor**: a person licensed to care for or treat people or animals, such as a physician, dentist, or veterinarian.
- **Firefighter**: someone who fights fires, either for pay or as a volunteer.
- **Island**: a piece of land surrounded by water.
- **Librarian**: a person trained to work in a library, or who maintains a particular collection of books.
- **Map**: a picture or chart that shows the city streets and buildings, along with rivers, and mountains, etc., in a particular area.
- **Needs**: things that people must have to live and be safe.
- **Neighborhood**: people living, working and playing near one another.
- **Police officer**: an agent of a department of a town, city, or state government that has the authority of enforcing laws, investigating crimes, and maintaining order.
- **Postal worker**: a person who works for a post office, such as a mail carrier. Postal workers collect, sort, and deliver mail, as well as sell postal products.
- **Sanitation Worker**: a person whose job is to collect, haul away, and dispose of garbage.
- **Secretary**: a person who works for a business or individual at such tasks as typing, filing and managing correspondence.
- **Teacher**: one who helps others learn information that they (the learners) have not yet mastered.
- **Waiter or Waitress**: a person employed to wait on customers, especially in a restaurant or café.
- **Wants**: things that people would like to have, but can live safely without obtaining.

Before Your Visit:
Conduct a read aloud.

Suggested books:
Community Workers: Whose Hat is That?

- “Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do” by Kathryn Heling and Deborah Hembrook
- “Community Helpers A to Z” by Bobbie Kalman
- “Let’s Meet a Doctor” by Bridget Heos
- “Let’s Meet a Firefighter” by Gina Bellisario
- “Let’s Meet a Police Officer” by Gina Bellisario
- “You’re a Community Helper” by Karen Bryant-Mole

After the reading, have each student write two sentences or more about their favorite community helper/worker OR have a whole class discussion about community helpers/workers.

After Your Visit:

Invite a firefighter, police officer, paramedic, or other community helper/worker to visit the class and talk to your students. Before the interview, have children think of questions to ask. What does the community helper do? What is his or her typical day like? What kind of education did the community helper receive? How did they train to be in their position? Have the community helper discuss his or her role in the community and suggest ways for your students to get involved.
Community Workers: Whose Hat is That?

Name: _____________________________________________

Date: ____________________

Who is your favorite community worker and why?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Draw a picture of your favorite community worker.
You are going to meet a community worker! What questions do you have for him/her?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________