

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY – Working in Early America

DIRECTIONS: In early America people’s jobs or professions were often times different from the ones we know today. Using the word bank below, choose which profession you think matches each description.

1. The **wheelwright** makes wheels, as well as wheelbarrows, carts, and wagons.
2. The **barber-surgeon** helps heal wounds and broken bones, pulls teeth, cuts and shaves hair, and bleeds patients.
3. The **weaver** uses looms to weave yarn into cloth.
4. The **tailor** sews cloth into suits for men.
5. The **potter** uses clay from the ground to make ceramic dishes, figurines, and crocks for storing food.
6. The **milliner** was usually a woman shopkeeper who sold clothing accessories like shirts, shifts, aprons, neckerchiefs, caps, cloaks, hoods, hats, muffs, ruffles, and trim for dresses.
7. The **hatter** uses furs or wool felt to make hats for their customers.
8. The **goldsmith** makes jewelry and other objects out of gold.
9. The **coppersmith** makes objects out of copper.
10. The **cooper** uses different types of wood to make barrels, tubs, pails, and churns for carrying water, alcohol, flour, tobacco, and many other types of things.
11. The **chandler** makes candles and soap. Benjamin Franklin’s father was one.
12. The **cabinetmaker** makes furniture out of wood.
13. The **butcher** kills and cuts up animals like chickens, cows, pigs, and sheep, and then sells their meat to customers.
14. The **blacksmith** makes objects out of iron. They often put horseshoes on horses as well.
15. The **silversmith** makes objects out of silver, like teapots, tankards, and spoons.

Barber-Surgeon
Cabinetmaker
Coppersmith
Milliner

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