



# POETRY OF CAREER EXPLORATION

IDEAL FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

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## Cameron Mitchell

### DESCRIPTION

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” You’re probably tired of this question. But what happens if you think outside the box? Sure there’s doctor, lawyer, professional athlete, actor, but did you know within these fields are careers such as neuroscientist, entertainment lawyer, occupational therapist, and cinematographer? Cameron encourages you to research your profession of interest and use that research and vocabulary to construct a poem. You might uncover the heart of a new career possibility!

### MATERIALS

- Notebook / Paper
- Pen or Pencil

### Discussion

- Pay special attention to verbs! Choose two careers and create a verb list for each one (the action words tied to the work that a person with this job might do). Now compare the verbs side-by-side. What do you notice about the different words, their meanings, and their sounds?
- For an extra challenge, once you compose your word list for a particular profession (let’s say, emergency medicine with words like sterile, exacting, pressure, and oxygen), try adding 3-5 words that might feel like the opposite of the profession. Can you work those words into your poem as well? Examples of “opposite” words might be: cozy, languid, holiday.

