Truck Driver

OVERVIEW
Truck drivers operate large vehicles that deliver goods and resources to work sites and marketplaces. At oil and gas production facilities, these deliveries include pipes, tools, and other heavy objects as wells are being drilled; and petroleum, water, and chemicals once the wells are in operation. Truck drivers closely follow safety guidelines and regulations for operating vehicles and maintain accurate maintenance and repair records. They are often involved with loading and unloading materials before they begin delivery trips and again when they reach their destination. They are responsible for handling paperwork, including receipts and delivery confirmations.

EVALUATE YOUR INTEREST
- I am dexterous and alert. I have excellent hand-eye-foot coordination.
- I am a skilled driver. I can maneuver vehicles of different sizes in tight spaces.
- I am conscientious and prioritize my safety and the safety of others when operating a vehicle. I am willing and able to follow rules and procedures.
- I am organized and able to keep accurate and detailed records.
- I enjoy taking long road trips in the car and am able to remain by myself for long periods of time.
### CAREER CONNECTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How does this career affect me?</th>
<th>What are some other similar careers?</th>
<th>How does this career affect the world?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The manufactured goods you enjoy every day—including foods you eat, clothes you wear, and appliances and devices that make life easier—arrive at your doorstep as a result of highly complex transportation processes that involve sending resources from around the world to production facilities and delivering finished products to the retailers who sell them. Goods would not be affordable to most consumers unless they were produced and transported with a minimum of costs in dollars, time, and labor. Truck drivers help make sure resources and goods are transported efficiently and safely so business firms can offer them at affordable prices to their customers, including you.</td>
<td>Equipment operators operate machines and vehicles at oil and gas production facilities. Railroad workers drive and coordinate trains or operate switches at rail yards. Water transportation workers operate and maintain vessels for transporting resources, goods, and people on the water. Automotive and Heavy Equipment Service Technicians and Mechanics inspect, maintain, and repair automobiles and trucks; as well as heavy equipment such as tractors, cranes, and military vehicles.</td>
<td>The world is an increasingly interconnected place. The goods and services people utilize on a daily basis—including clothing, appliances, digital devices, and foods—are often the product of resources that come from many different locations all over the globe. As a result of globalization, processes for producing and delivering manufactured goods to consumers is becoming more complex. Truck drivers deliver resources and finished goods within regional and global networks called supply chains. Their efficient transportation of these items helps make goods affordable to a greater share of the population, contributing to a higher quality of life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TAKE ACTION

☐ Consider attending an open house at an area vocational school to gather information about programs offered for training students to operate tractor trailers and other large delivery vehicles.

☐ Conduct research on your state’s requirements for obtaining a commercial driver’s license for operating a tractor trailer and other large delivery vehicles.

☐ Consider applying for part-time employment at a local business that delivers goods and/or resources around the community.

☐ Consult manuals and online resources to learn more about the workings and basic maintenance of vehicles in your home. When possible, assist with maintenance or basic repair work on vehicles by learning to complete tasks such as changing oil or repairing a flat tire.

☐ Consult maps, online resources, and media reports to gather information about traffic patterns in your community and region. Based on your research help your family plan travel for an upcoming day trip or vacation. Be sure to consider factors such as road and conditions, the time of day, and seasonal traffic variations.