

# So You Want to Be?

## LIBRARIAN

### OBJECTIVES

*After viewing, students should be able to:*

- characterize what a librarian does, and describe some activities which are involved in this career
- list school subjects which would be important to take, and why
- discuss how to go about being a librarian
- begin to consider what they would like to do in the future, and how to go about reaching their goals

### NOTE TO EDUCATOR:

At this age it is not important to make a firm career decision and viewers should not be encouraged to do so. What is important is learning about possibilities, and expanding one's own view of oneself as a productive adult.

### DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### *Before viewing:*

Most students are familiar with librarians. Ask a few students to tell how librarians have helped them, and what they have noticed that librarians do. Ask them to pay attention to this video to find out what else librarians do.

#### *After viewing:*

- Refer to the "before viewing" activity. Aside from checking out books, what do librarians do? (keep books in order, plan and provide special activities, read to children, help people research information, use computers, budget programs etc.)
- Joel Bangilan calls the library a public place. What is that? (a place open to everyone). What are some examples of private places? (homes, places of business)
- Mr. Bangilan first wanted to be a zoologist, then a dentist, then a teacher. Why do people change interests? Is it possible to work in one profession, then change to another? (yes, it's done often)
- What schooling is required to be a librarian? (college and post college for a masters degree in library science)
- Mr. Bangilan is a children's librarian specializing in children's' programs. What other kinds of librarians are there? (research, college, school)
- Other than books, what can you find in a library? (newspapers, magazines, research materials, computer internet access, videos, audiotapes and more)
- What is the Dewey Decimal system? (a numbering system for organizing books) What is the benefit of having every library in the world use the same system? (no matter where you are, you can always find the books you need)
- What do library cards allow you to do? (borrow books) What responsibilities come with them? (taking good care of book, returning them on time)
- The video says that reading is the ticket to imagination and can improve life skills. What kinds of books do the students like to read? Why?

### GROUP ACTIVITIES

- As a class, go to the school library and ask the librarian to explain the Dewey Decimal system. Then encourage each student to borrow and read a book. It is not necessary to require a book report on this book - sometimes that discourages children from reading.
- Choose a few students to interview a school or community librarian. Assist them in developing good questions and interview style. They can report back to the class on their interview.
- If some students don't have a library card, discuss how people get cards and encourage them to get one. For those who do have cards, discuss expiration dates and how to get them renewed.
- To encourage reading, some students may want to read to younger children at a special "library" time. This can be done in either classroom and should be fun for all involved.