

Construction

Orientation to the Construction work placement

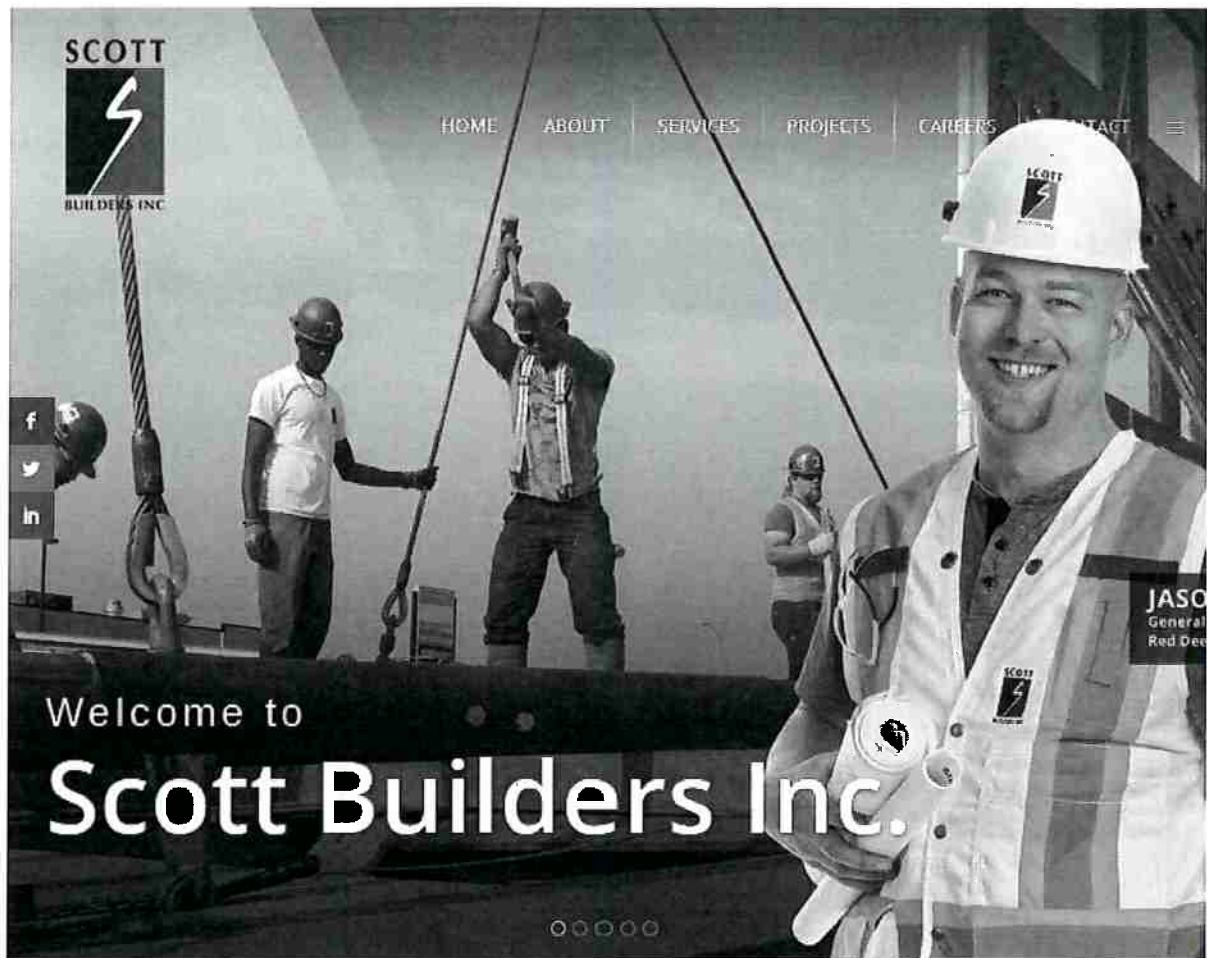
Course: Language for Work Master 2018

Book: Construction

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1. Scott Builders



(c) Scott Builders Website

You are assigned a Work Placement with Scott Builders in Edmonton. This Moodle Book will prepare you for your work placement. In this book, you will do the following:

- Explore the Scott Builder's website and watch videos from the website to learn about Scott Builders.
- Learn vocabulary words that you will need to use at Scott Builders.
- Learn about different tools, materials and equipment that are used in construction.
- Read and listen to a story about someone who worked in construction.
- Learn different ways to check your comprehension and ask for help when you don't understand.
- Read a job profile and answer questions.
- Read a tip sheet about staying warm on the construction site in winter.
- Identify Essential Skills that are important in construction.
- Listen to a video on hanging drywall and practice the *Thinking* Essential Skills.
- Practice reading a measuring tape using feet/inches and centimeters.
- Listen to and complete a work schedule and a time sheet.

2. Find out about Scott Builders

Explore Scott Builder's website

Scott Builders has a website. Go to their website. Click on different tabs and see what is there. Look at the pictures. Read a little. Watch a few of videos. This will give you some background on the company.

Now go to the page of their website called "Core Ideology".

- "Core" means **most important**.
- "Ideology" or "values" means **beliefs -- or things that they consider important**.

In your notebook (or on this worksheet), write down:

1. Scott Builder's **core purpose**
2. Scott Builder's **4 core values**

It is OK if you don't understand what those core values mean. Watch the following videos. You don't need to understand everything. But you should get some ideas about what is important at Scott Builders. In your notebook (or on the worksheet), make a list of the things are important at Scott Builders.

Module 8: Scott Builders

Explore a website:

Go to the Scott Builders website (see link in Moodle, or Google search “Scott Builders Edmonton”). Find answers to the following questions.

1. You looked at the website and listened to some videos. What is important at Scott Builders?

2. What is Scott Builder’s “Core Purpose”?

3. What are Scott Builder’s “Core Values”?

1.

2.

3.

4.

Listening practice

Go to this quiz. You will listen to the three videos again and answer questions. You can listen as many times as you want. You can take the quiz as many times as you want.

3. Reading 1: The Danger of Nodding Your Head

You will read a story and take a quiz. First though, do the following vocabulary activity.

Practice vocabulary from the story below in this Quizlet. You will see a word from the reading. You will hear the word in a sentence. Flip the card and see the definition.

In the red Toggle Tabs below, you will read a story that the owner of a construction company told. This is the story of one of his father's employees. *(Note: Antonio's name and a few of the details are fictional.)*

The story is divided into 4 parts below. Read each part. Think about the question at the end of that section. Then click on the next red toggle tab. You can listen while you read:

The Danger of Nodding Your Head

Part 1 Part 2 Part 3 Part 4

Antonio was a construction worker in Mexico. A homebuilder from Saskatoon, Canada came to his town to help build a school. The homebuilder decided to sponsor Antonio to come work in Canada.

Antonio's friend and sponsor helped him find a construction job in Saskatoon. At first, Antonio couldn't speak English at all. However, he knew a lot about construction. Antonio felt very happy about his new job. He wanted to be very polite to his boss. Often he didn't understand what people were saying. But he could understand a few words and he was very good at guessing.

When people talked to him, he nodded his head. He guessed what they wanted. He didn't like to say he couldn't understand. He didn't want to make people repeat over and over. He liked his boss, and wanted to impress him.

Question: Do you think this is a good plan?

Reading Quiz 1

Now take Reading Quiz 1. You can access it from this link or from the main course page.

1. CEO



Chief Executive Officer - the person responsible for the overall performance of a company

2. construction worker



3. crew



a group of people working together

4. expensive



costing a lot of money

5. flooring



material that covers the floor (hard wood, laminate, carpet, etc.)

6. guess



to give an answer that you are not sure about

7. home builder



8. impress



to make someone admire you

9. living room



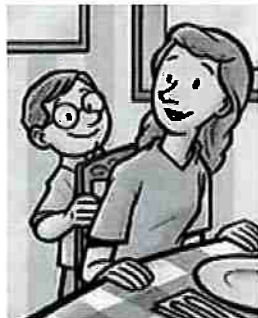
10. **nod**



11. **paint**



12. **polite**

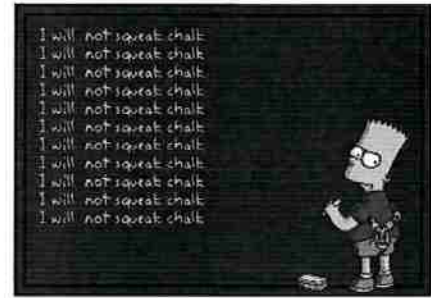


the opposite of this word is "rude"

13. **puddle**



14. **repeat**



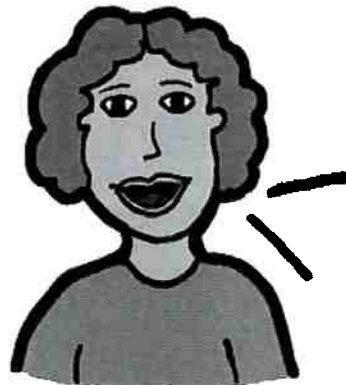
to say or do something again

15. **Saskatoon**



a city in Saskatchewan

16. **speak up**



to speak louder; to say something

17. **sponsor**

to pay for, finance, or be responsible for

4. When you don't understand



*Question Guy by Scout
Public Domain*

If you don't understand someone in a social conversation, sometimes it is OK to nod. The person will keep on talking. You might figure out what the person is talking about. Then you can join in. Sometimes this works.

However, this is NOT a good strategy on the construction site!

Why is nodding and guessing a bad strategy for the construction site?

On the job, it is important to check that you heard right. It is important to check to be sure you understand.

Checking your comprehension helps YOU.

Checking comprehension helps your BOSS and CO-WORKERS.

There are many ways to check your comprehension. One way is to repeat with rising intonation.

1. Repeat with rising intonation

The easiest way to check your comprehension is to repeat what you heard, using rising intonation.

Sam: Can you get me the sledgehammer?

Jan: Get you the sledgehammer? Sure.

If you didn't hear or understand part of what they said, you can repeat the sentence, leaving a blank for the piece you missed. Again, use rising intonation.

Sam: OK. Pass me the flathead screwdriver over there.

Jan: Pass you the...?

Often we put in a question word, like **what** or **which** or **where**, for word we didn't understand.

Sam: OK. Pass me the flathead screwdriver over there.

Jan: Pass you the **what** screwdriver?

We also often say "again" at the end of the question to ask the person to repeat.

Sam: OK. Let's see. These three walls need to be painted with this honeymilk white paint. And the other wall...

Jan: Paint them with **what** color again?

Jan: Paint **which** three walls again?

Later you will practice other ways to check your comprehension. But first, on the next page, learn some construction vocabulary while you practice repeating with rising intonation.

5. Learn construction vocabulary and practice checking comprehension

Construction Vocabulary Quizlet

Here is a Quizlet to help you do two things. You will:

- learn the names of tools and objects on the construction site.
- practice repeating with rising intonation to check your understanding.

First, review the flashcards at this Quizlet. You will see a construction word. You will hear a man asking someone to do something. Then you will hear a woman checking her comprehension.

- "Shadow" the woman to practice checking comprehension. (To "shadow" means to repeat at the same time.)
- Flip the flashcard to see a picture of the construction tool.

Now practice the vocabulary using some of the following options:

- Do the Learn activities. These activities will help you master the vocabulary. It will give you more practice with the difficult items.
- Play the matching game.
- Test your knowledge of the vocabulary here. If you want to try more tests, click on "Options" and select "Create new test".

On the next page, you will practice other ways to check your comprehension.

6. When you don't know what to do

Sometimes repeating with rising intonation is not enough.

Listen to and read the following conversation. Then answer the questions which follow.

Connie: Hey Josh, could you kill the breaker for me?

Josh: Sorry... kill the what?

Connie: Um. The breaker. Kill the breaker.

Josh: I'm sorry, I still don't understand.

Connie: Cut the power.

Josh: Cut what?

Connie: I mean... Sorry. Shut off the electricity. Uh. Flip the switch on the breaker there – see the breaker on the wall? That grey box?

Josh: Ahhh. You want me to turn off the electricity?

Connie: Yeah.

Josh: OK... Um... the grey box. Yeah, I see the breaker, but there are 5 switches. Which one should I flip?

Connie: Um. I think it's the 5th one. On the left side. But it should be labeled bathroom.

Josh: Oh. OK

Connie: OK. Got it?

Josh: Yup.

Connie: OK. Thanks!

Answer the following questions. Then check your answers by clicking on the green button.

1. What does "Kill the Breaker" mean?

Show Answer

2. What does "Cut the power" mean?

Show Answer

3. What is a "breaker"?

Show Answer

4. What did Connie want Josh to do?

Show Answer

5. What could have happened if Josh had not checked his comprehension?

Show Answer

1. Allen key



5. drywall saw



2. broom



6. flathead screwdriver



3. crescent wrench



7. hacksaw



4. drywall knife



8. hammer



9. **ladder**



10. **level**



11. **measuring tape**



12. **mop and bucket**



13. **pallet**



14. **Phillips screwdriver**



15. **pickaxe**



16. **scaffolding**



17. **shovel**



22. **wheelbarrow**



18. **sledgehammer**



19. **tool belt**



20. **utility knife**



21. **vise-grips**



Strategies for checking comprehension

Listen to and read the dialogue again. Do you hear Josh using the following strategies? Click on the strategies below to see examples of each.

Repeat with a question word.

Directly say you don't understand.

Paraphrase. Repeat the same ideas in your own words.

Ask extra questions to figure out exactly what to do.

What could have happened if Josh did NOT use these strategies?

Listen here to find out!

7. Construction Vocabulary: Power tools and heavy equipment



Construction Worker Safety by bridgesward, CCO 1.0

When you start a new job, you need to learn new vocabulary. This is true even if your English is very good.

Here is a Quizlet with words for common items on construction sites. You don't need to learn all of the words. Just learn the items that you see at your work site.

Power tools and heavy equipment Quizlet

This is a Quizlet that will help you learn words for power tools and heavy equipment.

First, review the flashcards at this Quizlet. You will see a word and hear it used in a sentence. Flip the flashcard to see a picture of the item.

Now practice that vocabulary using some of the following options:

- Do the Learn activities. These activities will help you master the vocabulary. It will give you more practice with the difficult items.
- Play the matching game.
- If you do the spelling activity, don't write the whole sentence. Just write the word.
- Test your knowledge of the vocabulary here. If you want to try more tests, click on "Options" and select "Create new test".

1. backhoe



2. barricade



3. breaker panel



4. cherry picker



5. chopsaw



6. circular saw



7. concrete mixer



8. cone



9. crane



10. **forklift**



14. **table saw**



11. **front end loader**



15. **traffic warning flag**



12. **jackhammer**



13. **power drill**



1. adhesive



something that sticks things together; glue

2. bricks



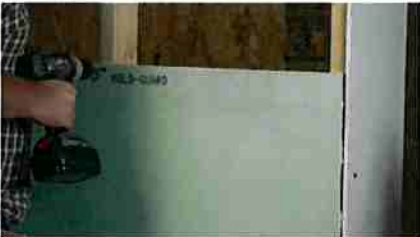
3. cement



4. concrete



5. drywall



6. fiberglass insulation



7. floor tiles



8. foundation



9. girder



10. **joint compound**



A paste that is used to prepare walls for painting.

11. **lumber**



12. **metal beam**



13. **nail**



14. **plywood**



15. **rafters**



16. **rebar**



17. **screw**



18. **shingles**



19. **tape**



20. **tar paper**



8. Construction vocabulary: Construction materials



Construction Worker Safety by bridgesward, CCO 1.0

It's hard to predict the language you will need in construction because it depends on what kind of work you are doing and where you are doing it.

Here is a Quizlet with words for common construction materials. You don't need to learn all of the words. Just learn the items that you see at your work site.

Construction materials Quizlet

Here is a Quizlet that will help you learn the names of building materials that you might see on your construction site.

First, review the flashcards at this Quizlet. You will see a word and hear the word in a sentence.

Now practice that vocabulary using some of the following options:

- Do the Learn activities. These activities will help you master the vocabulary. It will give you more practice with the difficult items.
- Play the matching game.
- If you do the spelling activity, don't write the whole sentence. Just write the word you hear.
- Test your knowledge of the vocabulary here. If you want to try more tests, click on "Options" and select "Create new test".

9. Reading 2: Job Profile

Job Profile

✓ Easy Reading
Career Planning Series



Make or
Fix Things

Labourer

Other names for this job

Construction worker

What do labourers do?

Labourers work on **construction sites**. They move **materials** and **equipment**. They take down buildings. They clean up construction sites.

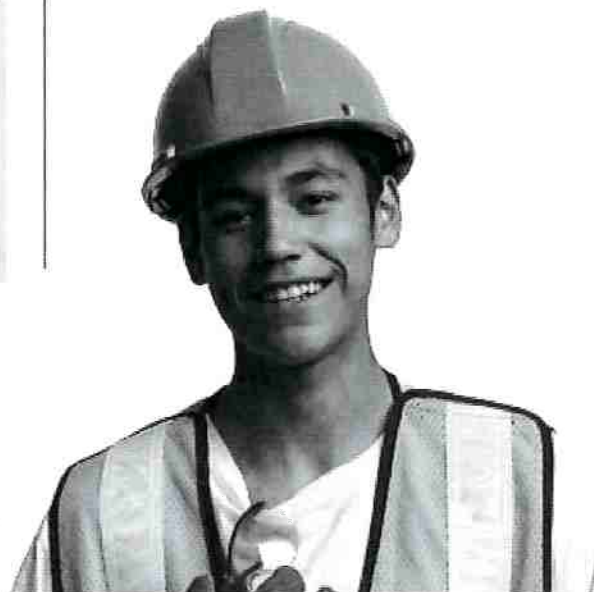
tip

Do you see words in bold?
You can look up these words at
alis.alberta.ca/ERdictionary.

- He uses power tools. For example, an electric drill.
- He builds things at construction sites. For example, ramps and scaffolding. Construction workers stand on scaffolding when they work in high places. Scaffolding is often made of wood and metal.
- He picks up garbage at the construction site.

Meet a labourer

Brad is a labourer. He works for a construction company. He usually works on large buildings. He also helps to build roads.



Labourer Job Profile (c) Alberta Government

The above image is from a Job Profile for a construction worker. Take a look at the title above. What is another name for a construction worker?

You have already practiced a lot of construction vocabulary so this reading should not be too hard. Click on the picture to go to the job profile. Read the profile. When you are finished reading the Job Profile, take the quiz below.

Job Profile Quiz

Take the quiz at this link. Or you can go to the quiz from the main page.

10. Reading 3: Staying warm on the construction site

Alberta is cold during the winter! Very cold! But some construction projects still need to be completed.

You will read a Tip Sheet on staying warm on the construction site and then take a quiz. But first, learn some of the vocabulary related to staying warm.

Practice vocabulary from the Tip Sheet in this Quizlet. You will see a word from the reading. You will hear the word in a sentence. Flip the card and see the definition or picture.

Tip Sheet

Click [here](#) for a Tip Sheet on how to stay warm on a construction site.

Read the tip sheet and then do the following quiz.

If you want, you can listen to someone reading the tip sheet [here](#):

Quiz

Take the quiz at this [link](#). Or you can go to the quiz on the main page.

1. **balaclava**



2. **coveralls**



3. **fleece**



4. **frostbite**



This is when body parts freeze (usually nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers or toes).

5. **hypothermia**



This is when your body loses too much heat

6. **insoles**



7. **insulated coveralls**



8. **insulated work gloves**



9. **insulated work mitts**



10. **numb**

unable to feel

11. **protective glasses**



12. **scarf**



13. **shivering**



When your body shakes because you are cold

14. **to insulate**

to protect; to add material to stop heat, electricity, or sound from going in or out

15. **waterproof**



material that keeps out water

16. **windproof**



material that stops the wind

17. **wool**



made from sheep's hair

18. **wool cap**



19. **wool socks**



20. **work boots**



11. Essential Skills and Hanging Drywall

Essential skills are the skills that are important in many different workplaces. In Modules 1-4 and 7, you practiced many Essential skills. In this module, you have also practiced Essential Skills.

When you go to your work placement, you will "shadow" someone. This person will be your mentor. Learn more Essential Skills from your mentor.

Numeracy

Reading

Writing

Digital technology

Document use

Thinking skills

If you want to learn more about the essential skills that are needed in construction, you can go to this link:

Explore Careers By Essential Skills: Construction Trades Helpers and Labourers

How to Hang Drywall

You will watch a video on how to hang drywall. Don't worry about the words. Practice your construction **Thinking** skills. Imagine you are going to hang drywall in a new house. Think.

1. **What materials will I need?** Look back at the Construction materials Flashcards. Which of those materials will you need? **Write a shopping list.**
2. **What tools will I need?** Look back at the Hand tools Flashcards. Which of those tools will you need? **Write a list.**

Here is the video:

Now go to this quiz. You will listen to short clips of this video. You will answer some **thinking** questions about materials, tools, and steps.

12. Measuring



(c) NorQuest College

Measuring is an Essential Skill (Numeracy) in construction. In Canada, you need to be able to measure in two different systems:

- The Metric system: meters, centimeters, and millimeters
- The Imperial system: yards, feet, inches

Do you know the abbreviations for the following?

- Meters: **m**
- Centimeters: **cm**
- Millimeters: **mm**
- Feet: **'** (2 feet can be written as 2')
- Inches: **"** (8 inches can be written as 8")

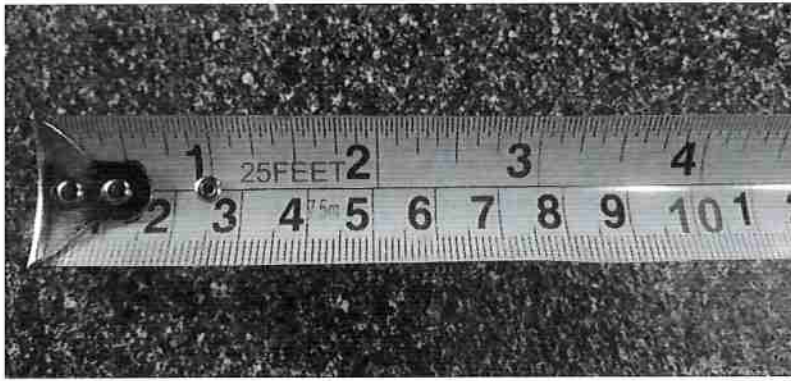
Measure It!

If you are not familiar with measuring in the Imperial system or the Metric system, you can get some practice at this website:

FunBrain Measure It

1. If you don't know much about one of the systems, do the Easy, Medium, Hard, and Super Brain activities.
2. If you already know a lot about one of the systems, just do the Hard and Super Brain activities.

At the top of the page is a picture of a measuring tape that a construction worker in Canada would use. Here is a close-up of the tape:



It is much more complicated than the FunBrain ruler you practiced with!

- The **top** of the tape measures in inches and feet.
- The **bottom** measures in centimeters.

Inches are divided into

- halves ($1/2$ ")
- quarters ($1/4$ ")
- eighths ($1/8$ ")
- sixteenths ($1/16$ ")

Centimeters are divided into

- halves (.5 cm)
- millimeters (.1 cm)

Now look at this picture and then answer the questions below.



1. How many inches are in 2 feet?

Answer

2. How many centimeters is 2 feet?

Answer

3. 23 inches is the same as ____ centimetres?

Answer

Practice with measuring

Go to this activity to practice measuring tiles, boards, walls, and more, using this measuring tape.

13. Complete a work schedule

Practice your Document Use Essential skills as you complete a form. You will listen to a crew supervisor talk to his crew about their work schedule for the upcoming week.

Listen to the first part of what he says, and look at the schedule below.

Work Schedule: <u>Josh's crew</u>							
Week: <u>June 4 to June 10</u>							
Employee	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Nick	7 am- 3:30 pm						
Jacob	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					
Andrew	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					
Emma	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					

Completing a work schedule

Now you will listen to the rest of the meeting and fill in the rest of the work schedule.

1. Download the Work Schedule form to fill out [here](#).
2. Now, listen to supervisor finish his work schedule announcement and complete the form.

3. Click [here](#) to see the completed Work Schedule. Did you fill it out correctly?

14. Complete a time sheet

Nick is a new employee. Listen as a woman helps Nick fill out his first time sheet. As you listen, look at the time sheet below.

Construction Company

Time Sheet

Pay Period: June 4-10, 20XX

Employee Name: Nick Bowen

Employee Number: 3925

Supervisor: Joshua Brown

Date	Start Time	End Time	Regular Hours	Overtime Hours	Total Hours
June 4, 2018	7:00 am	3:30 pm	8		8
June 6, 2018	9:00 am	7:30 pm	8	2	10

Completing a time sheet

Now you will help Nick fill in the rest of his time sheet.

1. Click here to download the Time Sheet to fill out.
2. Now, fill in the time sheet for Nick. You can use information from the Work Schedule you completed in the last activity. Or you listen to him "thinking out loud" and fill it in.
3. Click here to see the completed time sheet. Did you fill it out correctly?

Work Schedule: Josh's crew

Week: June 4 to June 10

Employee	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Nick	7 am- 3:30 pm						
Jacob	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					
Andrew	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					
Emma	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm					

Work Schedule: Josh's crew

Week: June 4 to June 10

Employee	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Nick	7 am- 3:30 pm		9 am- 7:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 5:30 pm	10 am- 6:30 pm	
Jacob	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	9 am- 7:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 5:30 pm		
Andrew	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	9 am- 7:30 pm		7 am – 5:30 pm	10 am- 6:30 pm	
Emma	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	9 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 3:30 pm	7 am- 5:30 pm		