

Form for the mapping of professions, positions and gender in the day-care bookshelf

What types of job or profession or position do the female and male characters have in the books on the bookshelf in the day care centre or nursery? Which jobs and positions do the children see that women and men have? Are these the same professions and the same positions, or are there differences? What is the significance of this? When performing this task it may be advantageous to have several persons working together, particularly if there are many picture books on the shelves.

1. Count the number of picture books.
2. Go through all the picture books and put those without professions and positions in a separate pile.
3. Browse all the picture books and look for pictures of all jobs/professions (doctor, teacher, shop assistant) and positions (king, thief, pirate), including when these are occupied by subordinate characters.
4. Insert post-it notes if a book has pictures of several professions or positions.
5. Tick off for each picture book with a profession and position in the attached form. If, for example, the book has pictures of a female doctor and a male teacher, put down a tick for each. Do not tick off more than once even if there are several female teachers in a book. Use the open fields for the professions that are not mentioned.
6. Use crayons with different colours and mark in the form:
 - a. the jobs/positions that have both men and women,
 - b. the jobs/positions held only by women, and
 - c. the jobs/positions held only by men.
7. Return to the floor/table with the open books with pictures of professions. Group books showing similar types of professions/positions and take a picture (service jobs, pirates/thieves, teaching etc.).
8. Assess and discuss the result of your examination.

Do children's books expand or confirm traditional gender norms?
 A resource from a project funded by Nordic Council of Ministers

Number of picture books:	
Books with jobs and positions	
Books without	

Job or position	Women	Men
Firefighter		//
Police	/	////
Postal worker	/	
Gardener / farmer		/
Bandit / thief	/	/
Regent (queen or king)		
Pirate		/
Nurse	/	
Doctor		
Veterinary surgeon		
Kindergarten teacher	//	//
Teacher		
Gas station service		/
Factory worker		
Waiter (restaurant)		
Dancer		
Circus performer		
Author/writer		
(fill in more jobs and positions, if needed)		