Instructions

1. To use this resource, print pages front and back.
2. Cut out pages and staple together to make a booklet.
3. Have students follow steps to find out which NOAA job best fits their personality.
4. Have them share their findings with the class so that each NOAA job is discussed.
What is NOAA Ship Rainier?

NOAA Ship Rainier is a government research ship that performs hydrographic research meaning that this ship is responsible for mapping the ocean floor. The main reason they do this is to keep mariners safe. It is important to map the ocean, because if we don’t know the depth, we could have many more ship wrecks.

You are most similar to.... an Electronics Technician

The electronic technician makes sure all the electronics work properly like the computers, the internet, navigational system, communication system, and sensors. Without the electronics technician, the crew couldn’t communicate as well with people on land!

To get this job, you must be good at working with computers. Having a formal education in computer technology would help you get this job.

Personality Quiz!

Which Job aboard NOAA Ship Rainier best suits your personality?

2a. I would like to be in the government uniformed services! (Go to page 4)

2b. I would prefer not to join the government uniformed services. (Go to page 5)
1a. I like working on computers and don't mind working on a computer for a fair amount of the day. (Go to page 2)
1b. Working on the computer is fine, but I don't want to stay at a computer the majority of the time. I would rather be moving around than stationary. (Go to page 3)

3a. If I lived on a ship, I might get a little stir crazy, so I would prefer if I could leave the ship by going out on smaller boats. (Go to page 6)
3b. I don't mind staying in on a ship for a few weeks as long as I get to do hands-on work. (Go to page 7)

What is NOAA?
NOAA stands for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They are part of our government. They do many things including provide data for daily weather forecasts and severe storm warnings. The National Weather Service is one part of NOAA. They also monitor climate, manage the nation’s fisheries, support trade and much more.

You are most similar to.... a Survey Technician

The survey department is responsible for collecting the ocean survey data which means going on smaller boats and working with the sonar equipment. They must also process the data which means the check over it and make it look neater so someone can look at it quickly and see what is going on.

If you want to do this job, it helps if you have taken several math and science classes in high school or college.
You are most similar to ....

**an Engineer**

The Engineering Department is responsible for operating all of the ship’s engineering systems, such as propulsion, fuel, electric power, refrigeration, ventilation, air-conditioning, and sanitation. They must maintain all engineering systems in the ship and its boats. They must prepare a fueling plan and conducting fueling operations.

To be an engineer, you must have a degree in engineering. However, you can work as a junior engineer to gain experience before getting a degree, but you should already have some engineering experience before applying to this job.

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You are most similar to ....

**the Deck Crew**

The deck department is responsible for maintaining the ships exterior and interior spaces; maintaining and operating deck machinery and boats; mooring and anchoring the ship; loading; unloading; and stowing supplies and equipment; and standing watches. The deck department also deploys, and retrieves research equipment. Some members of the deck department are responsible for driving the small boats. They may also build, rig, and maintain electronic navigation towers, tide gauges, and visual stations, etc.

To work in the deck department, you need to have experience working with boats or ships.

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4a. I am good at making plans and would enjoy making plans for everyone aboard the ship. (Go to page 9)
4b. I can make great plans, but would rather have someone else make the day to day plans so I can focus my attention elsewhere. (Go to page 10)

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6a. I am jack of all trades who likes to learn new things often. I would like a job where I get good at one thing and can then move on to master something else. (Go to page 12)
6b. When I get good at something I like to keep doing that same thing, because I know I can do it well. (Go to page 13)
5a. I would like to spend my time living on one ship, so I can get to know the ship and the people aboard really well. (Go to page 8)
5b. I think going from ship to ship would be more interesting than staying on one ship all summer. (Go to page 11)

7a. I like to cook. Making others a delicious meal is very rewarding for me. (Go to page 14)
7b. I like to tinker. I have the most fun when I build and repair equipment and learn how things work. (Go to page 15)
You are most similar to....

a Physical Scientist

Physical scientists spend most of their time on land, but they also go from ship to ship. The job of a physical scientist can vary and can include overseeing and analyzing oceanographic data collection.

To obtain a position with NOAA as a physical scientist or project manager you need a bachelor's degree in an environmental science or policy related field, and should consider a graduate degree. Without a graduate degree it might be difficult to advance within your field.

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8a. Science is awesome! I want to do research someday. (Go to page 16)
8b. Computers are the best! I am good at fixing problems with computers. (Go to page 17)
You are most similar to...
the FOO (Field Operations Officer)

The FOO coordinates the day to day ship operations with the scientific party chief. The FOO oversees the training of deck officers, prepares all reports and represents the ship in operational planning. The FOO assumes the XO's responsibilities in the XO's absence.

To become a FOO, you must first serve as a Junior Officer for several years. To become a Junior Officer in the NOAA Corp you must have a four year degree in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) field.

You are most similar to....
The Captain/CO (Commanding Officer) or XO (Executive Officer)

The CO is responsible for the safety of all hands aboard, for the security of the ship and machinery, and for the efficient accomplishment of the mission. The CO sets policy through the Executive Officer, the department chiefs and the deck officers. The CO is accountable for the actions of the entire complement, including the scientific party, while aboard and off the ship in any port. The XO is responsible for the overall readiness of the ship in conformance with budget and policy guidelines. The XO executes these duties through the department chiefs and the deck officers. The XO assumes Command in the CO's absence.

To be a CO or XO, you must work your way up the ranks over several years. You must first be a JO and a FOO. You must have at least a four year degree in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Math) field.