

Explaining Career Paths to Children

- 1) **Break down your profession into simple language and examples.** What is a lawyer? Someone who helps people fight using words so they don't hit each other. What is an accountant? Someone who helps people count their money.
- 2) **Demonstrate that your profession isn't only about money.** Describe some of the ways you use your skills outside of a commercial setting to help people. Tell them stories about how your profession helps people. If you are in marketing, talk about the Ad Council. If you are an architect, talk about how architects build schools and hospitals.
- 3) **Tell your story.** How were you inspired to join your profession? What keeps you inspired? Tell vivid stories that help them relate to your path.
- 4) **What did you want to be when you grew up?** Odds are you aren't doing exactly what you envisioned, but are you doing work that is aligned with the values and aspirations you had as kid? Can you tie in some of your favorite subjects as a child to your career now?