

Careers Behind the Cart



Your order took 30 seconds to place. It took a lot of people to deliver it.

Follow one package from the store shelf to your door. Then solve three delivery problems.

Step 1 Track the Package

1

Scan 1: Product chosen Floral Department Manager

Orders, stocks and displays the products a store department sells.

4

Scan 4: Loaded Ramp Worker

Loads and unloads packages and cargo on aircraft.

2

Scan 2: In stock Fork Lift Operator

Moves and stores products in the warehouse so they can be found fast.

5

Scan 5: Sorted at the hub Air Hub Supervisor

Oversees the hub where packages are sorted and sent on their way.

3

Scan 3: Packed Warehouse Associate

Pulls, sorts and packs items accurately.

6

Scan 6: Out for delivery Delivery Driver

Gets packages to the right door safely and on time.

Step 2 Package Detective

Three orders had problems. Read each case, then look at the tracker above. Find the scan where the problem started, and write that scan's number and career. Then write one way that career could stop the problem from happening.

Case A

An item shows as "in stock" online, but it isn't on the shelf.

Scan number: _____

Career: _____

One way to prevent it:

Case B

A package is stuck at a sorting center during a snowstorm.

Scan number: _____

Career: _____

One way to prevent it:

Case C

The wrong item arrives at your door.

Scan number: _____

Career: _____

One way to prevent it:

Step 3 Look It Up

Pick one career from the tracker and find its Career Profile in Pathful. What is one thing it requires that you didn't expect?

Time

30 to 35 minutes

Grades

9 to 12

Best For

Thanksgiving week or Cyber Week, as a bell ringer or an exit ticket

What Students Will Do

Students follow one online order through six scans and name the career at each step. Then they play package detective, tracing three delivery problems back to the step and career responsible.

Before You Start

- Print one page per student. The educator page is for you only.
- Make sure students can log in to Pathful for Step 3.

How to Run It

1. (3 to 5 min) Ask: what happens between clicking Buy and a package arriving? Collect a few answers.
2. (5 to 8 min) Read the package tracker together. Each scan lists a step, a career and what that career does.
3. (10 to 15 min) Step 2: students read Cases A, B and C. For each, they write the scan number, the career and one way to prevent the problem.
4. (6 to 10 min) Step 3: students pick one career from the tracker, find its [Career Profile](#) in Pathful and write one requirement they did not expect.

Answer Key

Case A (an item shows as in stock but is not on the shelf): Scan 2, [Fork Lift Operator](#). Prevention: update inventory counts more often. Case B (a package is stuck at a sorting center in a snowstorm): Scan 5, [Air Hub Supervisor](#). Prevention: plan backup routes or ship earlier. Case C (the wrong item arrives): Scan 3, [Warehouse Associate](#). Prevention: scan every item before it is packed. Accept other reasonable answers.

Discussion Prompts

- Which stop seems the hardest to do well?
- Which careers never meet customers but affect every order?

Support and Extend

- Short on time? Do the tracker and Step 2 in class and assign Step 3 as homework.
- Support: solve Case A together as a model.
- Extend: students invent a fourth delivery problem and swap with a partner to solve.