



Match the Trade!

CLASSROOM GAME

Time Needed: 25-30 minutes

Audience: Grades K-4

Objective: Help students learn about plumbing, heating, cooling, and electrical jobs by having them match pictures of tools to the right job.

1 Step One: Game Components

- Three job cards featuring the job name, an illustration of a the job, and a simple description.
- Nine tool cards featuring a tool that matches with one of the three jobs.

2 Step Two: How to Play

- Lay out the three job cards on a table. Students are helping a plumber, an HVAC technician, and electrician find the tools they need.
- Shuffle the nine tool cards and put them on the table in a stack.
- Students take turns picking a tool card and placing it under the correct job. Students are helping each tradesperson pack for their day!
- Talk about your choices and encourage discussion: “Why do think this tool goes with that job?” “Have you seen these tools in your home?” “Do you know anyone who works with these tools?”

3 Step Three: Example Matches

Tool Image	Goes With	Why?
Wrench	Plumbing	Used to tighten or loosen pipes
Thermostat	HVAC	Controls heating and cooling
Light Switch	Electrical	Starts or stops the flow of electricity
Water Heater	Plumbing	Warms water in a home or building
Air Conditioner	HVAC	Helps new air come in and pushes old air out
Wires	Electrical	Connects electrical energy to outlets, lights, and appliances
Pipes	Plumbing	Moves water from one place to another
Furnace	HVAC	Heats the air in a home or building
Outlet	Electrical	Moves electricity to a device that's plugged in

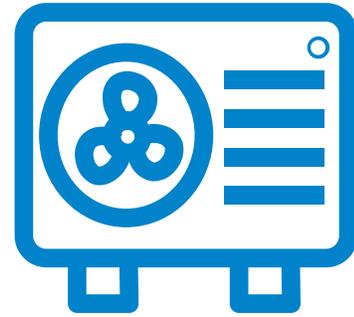
4 Step Four: Trade Cards

- Cut out the job cards on the next page.



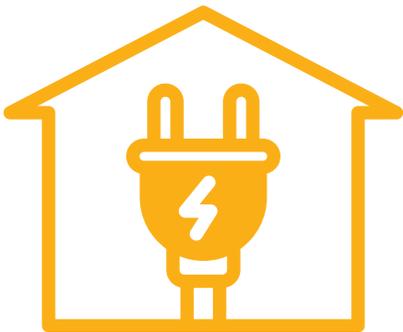
Plumbing

Plumbers work to bring clean water in and push dirty water out of buildings.



HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning)

HVAC technicians keep buildings comfortable all year round.



Electrical

Electricians bring power to homes, schools, and businesses.



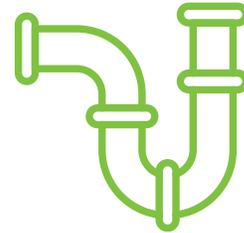
Wrench

5 Step Five: Tool Cards

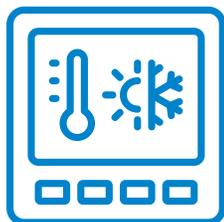
- Cut out the tool cards for the tool card above and on the following pages.



Water Heater



Pipes



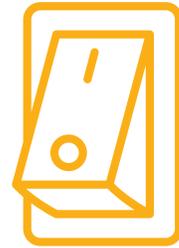
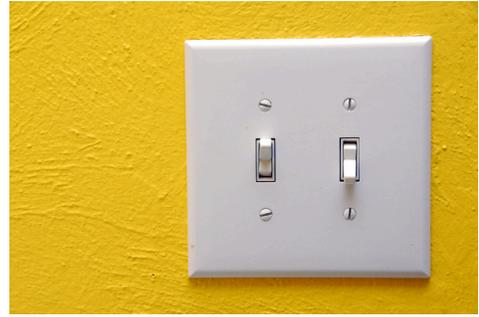
Thermostat



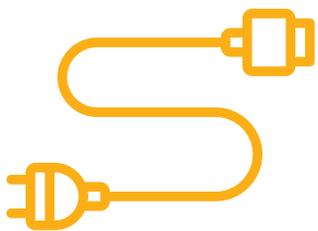
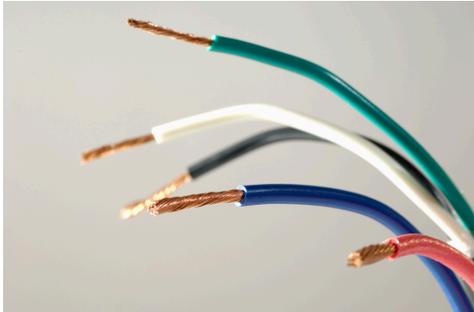
Air Conditioner



Furnace



Light Switch



Wires



Outlet

Optional Extension: Tool Hunt Around the Room

- After matching the tools to the jobs, invite students to explore the classroom to find real-life examples of where these tools might be used.

Plumbing Tools



- Look for a sink, water fountain, or bathroom fixtures. Ask: “What tools would a plumber use here?” “What do you use water for at home?” “What would happen if we didn’t have clean water?”

HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) Tools



- Look for a thermostat, air vent, or fan. Ask: “What do you think the thermostat does when you press the buttons?” “How do you feel when the room is too hot or too cold?” “Can you find something in the room that blows air or keeps it warm?”

Electrical Tools



- Find a light switch, outlet, or ceiling light. Ask: “What happens when you flip a light switch?” “What do you think would happen if the lights didn’t work?” “What do you use electricity for at home?”