

When I grow up, I want to be an...Inspector!

<https://careers.doi.gov/occupational-series/general-inspection-investigation-enforcement-and-compliance>

What do Inspectors Do?

Inspectors analyze and inspect structures for wrong doings or problems to protect life and property by upholding rules, regulations, and laws. They investigate and gather information of violations, resource vandalism, and criminal activity on public lands, e.g., National parks, Oil rigs, Mines.

Fields of Study: Business, Civil Engineering, Criminal Justice, and general studies

Bureaus that employ Inspectors:



This is a job for you, if you enjoy:

- Working out in the field! Most of the work will be spent at different job locations inspecting and investigating the area for any problems
- Investigation and Reporting: Fact-finding, collecting data and information, and writing about your findings
- Independence: The work you do is within in a team, but most of the work is done alone without supervision



Age-Appropriate Activities

Activities for Ages 4 Years and Under:

- I Spy...

Activities for Ages 5 – 8 Years:

- I Spy...
- See, Think, Wonder Activity: This activity helps students make careful observations and thoughtful interpretations. Begin by looking at an image or problem and ask:
 - *What do you see?* Give them at least one minute to take in the entire image or problem. Students can write down what they observe in the “see” column.
 - *What do you think is going on?* This probes them to look a little deeper at what they noticed on the surface to see if there is any significance to it.
 - *What does it make you wonder?* This

allows students to take what they thought about the image or problem and let their imaginations run wild.

- Sensory Bins: To create a sensory bin, simply fill a small tub or container with objects from nature such as leaves, rocks, and sand that have different textures for your little one to explore. Or use foods, like pasta, rice, or beans, along with spoons, scoops, and small toys to bury and discover.

Activities for Ages 9 – 12 Years:

- [My Public Lands: Investigation Activity](#)
- [Oil spills clean up](#) (below)

Activities for 13+:

- [Brain Game](#)
- [Inspector Program](#)
- [Oil spills clean up](#)

OIL SPILL EXPERIMENT FOR KIDS

YOU'LL NEED

Clear plastic container

Spoon or pipette

Cotton buds

Tray

Water

Paper towel

Vegetable oil

Cotton wool

Sponge

OIL SPILL INVESTIGATION INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1 – ADD OIL TO WATER

Half fill the clear container with water. Drop a small amount of oil onto the water.

The oil will float on top of the water. Even if you shake the container (cover it first) the oil and water will separate again.

Use a cotton bud to move the oil around surface of the water.

STEP 2 – OIL CLEAN UP

Pour enough water into the tray so the surface is completely covered, and the tray is about half full.

Carefully drop two tablespoons of oil onto the surface of the water.

Experiment with the absorbent materials to discover which cleans up the oil spill the best.

OIL SPILL CHALLENGES

Try to build something to contain oil to one area of the tray.

Try the experiment again, but this time use the same amount of each absorbing material and collect the oil for the same amount of time. Which material absorbs the oil the most effectively?

Another idea is to dip a feather in the oily water and watch as it starts to feel heavier. Imagine being a bird with oil covered feathers. This activity can be further extended by exploring different methods of cleaning oil covered feathers. Water and water with washing up liquid are great things to try first.