

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

Built to Work

Lesson Plan for *Excavators*
Grade 1

Objective

To help students identify the similarities and differences between two types of excavators.

Things Needed

- *Excavators* book
- Access to the “Excavators” web page on the Pop! website:
<https://popbooksonline.com/construction-vehicles/excavators>

Before the Activity

Read *Excavators* out loud to students. Open the “Excavators” web page in your internet browser. Pull up the “Learn More” tab.

Activity

To start, introduce the idea that different machines are built to do different tasks. People design machines to work in different areas. Some machines may be better at certain tasks than other machines. People choose the right machine for the job. Excavators are one example. Explain to students that they will learn about two different types of excavators.

Have students reread pages 20 and 21 in the *Excavators* book. Then have students read the caption and look at the image on the “Learn More” tab of the “Excavators” web page. Students should use both texts to answer the following questions:

- What do excavators do? (Possible Answers: Excavators can tear down buildings and trees. They can dig holes for roads and buildings. They can scoop up items.)
- What are two different kinds of excavators? (Answer: swamp excavators and spider excavators)
- How are swamp excavators and spider excavators similar? (Answer: They are both excavators. They can both perform the same tasks.)
- How are swamp excavators and spider excavators different? (Answer: Swamp excavators have big, wide tracks for floating on water. Spider excavators have legs for balancing on uneven ground.)



- When might a construction worker want to use a swamp excavator? (Possible Answer: when the construction job is taking place on wet ground)
- When might a construction worker want to use a spider excavator? (Possible Answer: when the construction job is taking place on the side of a mountain or in other hard-to-reach places)

Evaluation

Could students identify the jobs of an excavator? Could they identify the similarities and differences between two kinds of excavators?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.3).

