

I Want to Be



This book is part of the Tulliniliara Reading Series, developed by the Department of Family Services in Nunavut. The Tulliniliara Reading Series is a unique, Nunavut-developed literacy initiative that infuses awareness of skills, interests, and careers into a culturally appropriate reading program.

The Tulliniliara Reading Series was developed to support the reading level guidelines outlined in Uqalimaariuqsaniq, the Department of Education's reading program. Uqalimaariuqsaniq is a sequential and progressive Inuktitut reading program that supports students in their development as readers.

The Tulliniliara Reading Series will inform readers about jobs available in their community. It will also provide opportunities for readers to consider their own interests and skills when thinking about future work. Awareness of career possibilities at a young age will better prepare children to understand the opportunities that are open to them and the importance of staying in school.

These books represent the Department of Family Services' investment in the early development of our future workforce.

Book details

Level:	11
Text Type:	Fiction
Subjects/themes:	Learning about careers from people in the community; setting goals
Key features:	Present tense, dialogue, multiple first-person points of view

I Want to Be



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When I grow up, I want to be a chef.

When my mom cooks dinner or bakes desserts, I always help out. She teaches me new skills, like how to know when Arctic char is cooked just right.

“How do I become a chef?”
I ask my mom.

“Some people go to chef school,” my mom says. “Other people learn their cooking skills by working in kitchens with other chefs.”





When I grow up, I want to be a builder.

When I see a house being built in my community, I watch how it changes every day as the builders work on it. I like to use blocks to make buildings at home.

My dad says I could also become an architect.

“An architect designs houses and other buildings,” my dad tells me. “They share their designs with builders, who make the buildings.”





When I grow up, I want to be a singer.

I love listening to music and playing my guitar. I am also in a choir. We learn new songs and practise singing them together.

My aunt is a singer!

“How can I become a singer like you?” I ask her.

“You have to practise all the time,” she says. “I can also show you how to record a song so you can share it with your friends!”





When I grow up, I want to take care of our environment.

I help out at the spring cleanup every year. Keeping our land clean is one way to protect the plants and animals that live there.

My teacher says I could be a biologist. Biologists study the environment.

Some biologists use drones to look at parts of the land that are hard to get to. I'd like to learn how to use a drone!





When I grow up, I want to be a leader in our community.

In leadership club at school, we volunteer all around the community. I like helping out at the soup kitchen.

“If you want to be a leader one day, you might want to work in government,” the manager at the soup kitchen says.

He tells me that leaders in the government come up with ideas to make the community better for everyone.





When I grow up, I want to be a pilot.

I love travelling on airplanes to other places. I want to fly all over the world, see different places, and meet new people.

One day, I see a pilot at the airport.

“How did you become a pilot?” I ask him.

“I went to flight training school,” he replies. “There is a lot to learn about how planes fly!”





When I grow up, I want to be a writer. I like to write stories about different things that happen in my community. Sometimes I share these stories with my friends and family.

“If you like to write, you might want to become a journalist,” my neighbour tells me. “Journalists write about what is happening in the world around them.”

My neighbour says journalists work for newspapers, websites, or radio or television stations!





There are so many things
you can be when you grow up!
You can be a writer or a pilot.
You can be a chef or a biologist.
You can be a singer or a builder.



What do you want to be
when you grow up?

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