

## A job in the summer vacation

In the USA the school summer vacation is ten weeks long. Here's an example of a website for American teenagers which gives them advice on finding a summer job.

### +++ SUMMER VACATION +++ JOB +++ SUMMER VACATION +++ JOB +++

5 Can't wait for the ten week school vacation? Lying around in the sun is not enough for you? You need a summer job ...! With a job you'll have more than just a few extra dollars. You'll learn about responsibility and money management while you are getting important experience in the world of real work.

#### First steps: Your checklist

##### Decide what you're interested in

10 Not everyone can imagine working with little kids, or even with animals. Would you prefer to work indoors or outdoors? Would you prefer a quiet place to work or a noisy, busy place?

##### Decide what you're good at

15 Sometimes it helps to ask your family and friends how they see you, and where they think your strengths lie.

##### Any work experience?

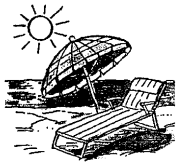
20 Have you ever done volunteer work or any babysitting? Have you ever helped out in your uncle's shop? Do you sometimes walk your neighbor's dog? -- It all counts!

#### Get it right -- What the law says

- You must be at least 14 years old, unless you want to work on a farm, then you can be younger. 25
- 14-15 year-olds can work a maximum of 8 hours a day and 40 hours a week in the summer. (Be careful! Your work must end at 9 pm!).
- For 16-17 year-olds there is no limit on the number of hours, but only 'non-dangerous jobs' are allowed. 30
- Under 18? In some states you may need to get official working papers. Without them it is illegal to work. 35



#### Who can help you to find a job?



- Your high school has a Guidance Office<sup>1</sup>. Ask them if they have information on local businesses or part-time jobs.
- Tell everyone you know that you want to work in the summer. (Did you know that only 20% of jobs are advertised?) Most people you know will be happy to help you find a job. Perhaps they have connections to other people who could help you. And of course ...
- Don't only check newspaper adverts and websites. Get out and look around your local area. Keep your eyes open for adverts in the windows of shops or businesses. 45

**Résumé:** Jennifer Chow , 3344 Whyte Ave., Edmonton AB T6T 6T6 Phone: (780) 919-9999

**Objective:** Position as part-time assistant in a veterinary clinic.

**Summary:** Grade 12 student, with high academic standing, particularly in the sciences. Preparing for veterinary college. 15 years of experience assisting with animals in farm and home settings.

**Experience and accomplishments:** Volunteer (part-time) at the SPCA for three years. Designed and implemented fundraising campaign at school to raise money for injured wildlife. Built and sold dog houses to supplement summer job income. Made a presentation to city council on behalf of the Friends of Cats. 1999 and 2001-Sales clerk, Doghouse pet store (summers) 1998-2000-Part-time Teacher's Assistant, kindergarten, McKernan Elementary School

**Education:** Strathcona Composite High School, will complete Grade 12 in 2002.

**References:** Supplied on request

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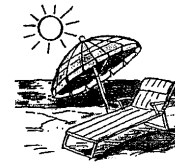
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