

What Does a Doctor Do?

There are many people who help us in our lives, such as teachers, firefighters, police officers, postal workers, builders, electricians, plumbers and bus drivers. There are medical experts like doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other important people who help us when we are poorly.

Great doctors...

- make quick choices;
- work well in a team and on their own;
- listen to people;
- help people to be healthy;
- need to be kind and have patience;
- keep trying and keep learning;
- are helpful;
- multi-task;
- are hard-working;
- manage their time.



What roles and responsibilities do doctors have?

Doctors treat and care for their patients. Some doctors work in a local doctors' surgery as a GP - this is who you visit when you are not very well. Some are hospital doctors - this is who you see when it is an emergency, like when you have broken your leg. Doctors have to listen to what the patient says is wrong with them, look at them and may check their temperature and look in their mouth and ears. When the doctor treats the poorly person, they might give out medicine or tell them how they can get better. If they are really poorly, the doctor sends them to a hospital doctor to help.

Sometimes the doctor has to investigate and try different things to see what will make the person better. Doctors have to carry on learning new things all the time, go to meetings, record things, work with and help other people, do lots of training and be good on



the computer. Sometimes, hospital doctors focus on one type of medicine or part of the body.

Where can doctors work?

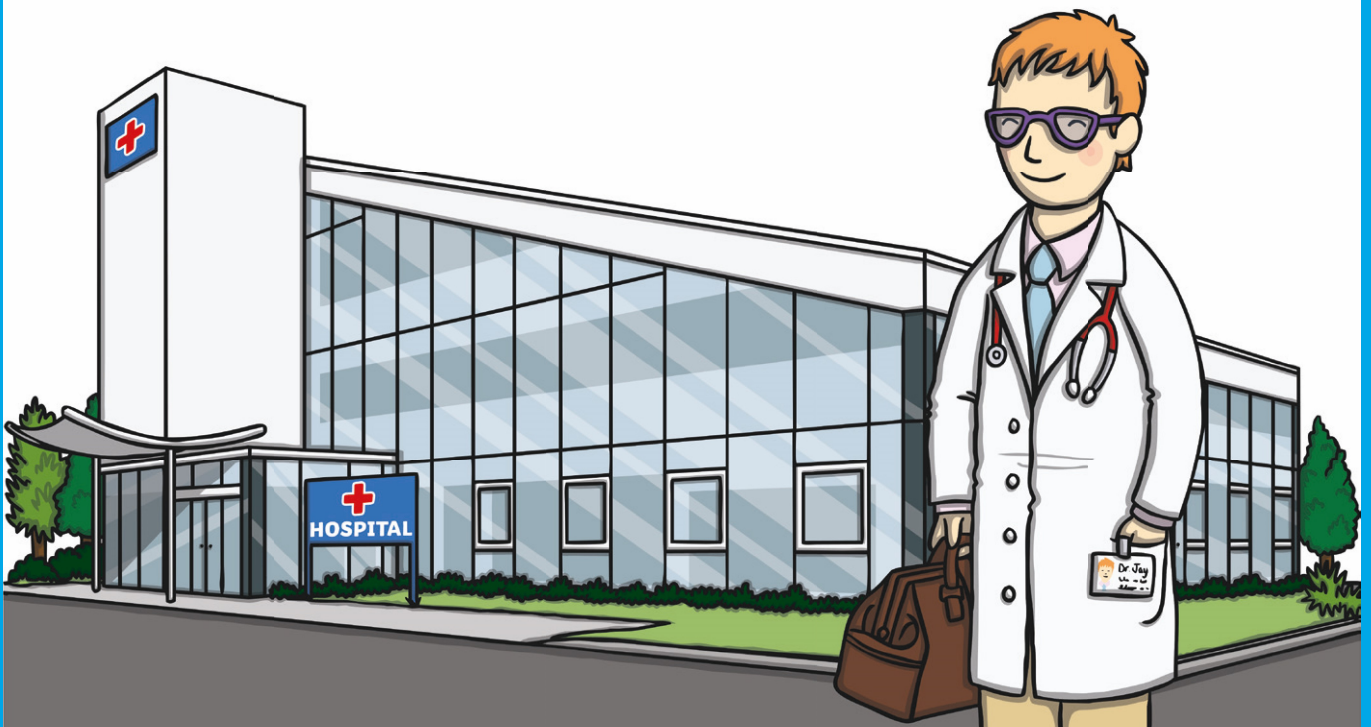
They can work in doctors' surgeries, hospitals, clinics, army, navy or air force bases, in prisons and other places, in our country and abroad.

What do doctors wear and need?

Some doctors wear different smart, casual clothes so that they are comfortable and can move easily. Some wear smart clothes and a lot of doctors in hospitals and clinics wear white coats or scrubs. Doctors need stethoscopes, thermometers, notepads, pens, pencils, clipboards and lots of other medical equipment.

How do you become a doctor?

To become a doctor, you have to have GCSEs, science A-levels and a medical degree from University and then do more training at medical school.



What Does a Doctor Do? Questions

Answer the questions below in full sentences.

1. Name three medical people who help us.

2. Which are the two main types of doctors and when do you see them?

3. What do doctors have to do with the patient before they can treat them?

4. What do doctors do if the person is really poorly?

5. What other tasks do doctors do?

6. Name four places doctors can work.

7. Why do you think it's a good idea if doctors can listen well to people?

8. Why might a doctor need to be able to keep going at things?

9. What do some doctors in hospitals wear?

10. What have you or your family visited the hospital for?
