

# APPENDIX B

## Career Corners

Each student page in this volume includes a Career Corner that introduces students to a green career, with many connections to the corrugated packaging and forest industries. Brief text describes the career and its connection to the student page content and supporting skills. Green jobs offer interesting and meaningful opportunities for people with diverse backgrounds, skills, interest areas, and personal qualities. The facing page lists all of the Career Corners found in *Thinking Outside the Box*.

To make the most of the Career Corners, educators are invited to try one or more of the following.

### Ideas for Career Exploration

- Provide students with the complete set of Career Corners suitable for their grade range. Have them sort the cards by different skills, content areas, or personal qualities, or by whether they are STEM-focused.
- Ask students to choose one of the careers to research. Have them find out what skills, characteristics, and training would be required to do this job, and write a brief report about the career. They should include whether they would be interested in pursuing this career and why or why not.
- Invite guests who work in the corrugated packaging industry, forest sector, or other environment-related careers to speak to your group about the work they do. Encourage youth to practice informational interviewing skills with guests.
- Encourage students to write a story about a person in a green career. The story might include something about the person's background or personal qualities, and a challenge the person faces in their work.
- Lead students in the My Green Future activity (see pages 12-17).

### Ideas for Skills Building

- Using the complete set of Career Corners as a starting point, encourage students to identify what skills forestry professionals require to conduct their jobs successfully, the corresponding skills students have, and which skills they might like to grow in their own career development.
- Challenge students to look for other careers that use some or all the skills identified above. The careers may or may not be related to forests.
- Invite students to conduct a self-assessment of their own green career skills, using Appendix C: Full STEAM Ahead.
- Give older students practice using their green career skills by having them lead activities in *Thinking Outside the Box* (or portions of them) with other audiences. While younger learners would be a great fit, adults also could learn more about the forest products they use every day.



**CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES** are the main point of contact for corrugated packaging customers. They manage orders, provide quotes, monitor projects, and provide internal support.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGERS** at corrugated manufacturing facilities work to create a safe and healthy workplace and ensure that the company meets environmental regulations.

**GRAPHIC DESIGNERS** use images and art to communicate ideas that inspire, inform, and attract consumers to products through branding efforts. They may create designs for boxes, other packaging, or presentations.

**MACHINE OPERATORS** safely run the machines used for corrugating, printing, finishing, and shipping corrugated materials. Advanced machine technology can optimize fuel consumption, reduce emissions, and contribute to sustainable forestry.

**MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS** install, inspect, repair, and maintain equipment at corrugated manufacturing facilities. They make sure the machinery runs smoothly and troubleshoot any issues.

**PRODUCTION SUPERVISORS** are leaders who help a team of workers make corrugated products. They make sure everyone works safely and does the job right, so people can get the boxes they need.

**PRODUCTION WORKERS** are an important part of the box-making process. They might conduct quality checks, feed and stack sheets at various machines, and help set up machines for special orders.

**SALES REPRESENTATIVES** sell corrugated packaging and display solutions to new and repeat customers. They research and determine needs to make recommendations and answer customer questions.

**SHIPPING CLERKS** at corrugated manufacturing facilities are responsible for all incoming and outgoing shipments. They schedule customer requests, prepare shipments, monitor driver routes, and ensure successful deliveries to customers. They take steps to make the shipping industry more renewable and sustainable.

**STRUCTURAL DESIGNERS** design and make corrugated packing for different products based on customers' needs. With thoughtful designs that protect products from damage, they can help to reduce waste.

