



**professional:**  
well-trained, well-made or well-done

## Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan

### Introduction:

You probably already know one meaning of the word professional, a person who has special training to do a job well, such as a doctor, a well-known artist or musician, or a major league baseball player. However, professional also has several other meanings. In today's lesson professional means "well-trained, well-made or well-done." Another way to think of this meaning of professional is - "something that looks professional, but was done by someone without special training".

Let's look at a picture that will help us understand the meaning of the word "professional". In the picture, this boy is very well dressed in his shirt and bowtie. He looks professional; if he were a grown-up, you might think he was a businessman or a doctor. Since the boy is clearly too young to be a doctor, we say he looks "professional".

### Example:

Let me give you another example of this meaning of the word professional. You may not know this about me, but one thing I like to do on the weekends is to make things out of wood (*Teacher Note: You may use a different example if you wish*). A few weeks ago, I made a bookcase for my house. It turned out nicely and I get many compliments from my friends. One person said that my bookcase looks professional. In other words, he thought it looked so well-made, that it was as good as a bookcase made by a professional carpenter.

If you tried really hard, you might be able to do a professional coloring job. If you worked very carefully, always stayed inside the lines, applied your colors very evenly and combined your colors beautifully, the picture might look very professional.

### Reflection:

I am going to show you some pictures of things done by children. If it shows something that is well-trained, well-made or well-done, put your thumbs up and say "professional". If what I say is not something that looks well-made, well-trained or well-done, put your thumbs down and say "NOT professional". (*Teacher note: Use the cards on the next page. You may find it easier to cut these pictures to show them one at a time to your students.*)

- This hairdo (NOT professional)
- This stick drawing (NOT professional)
- This painting (professional)
- The sleeves on her jacket (NOT professional)

### Make it personal:

Think of something you have made or done in your life that was very professional. (Perhaps a story you wrote, a report you made, a painting you drew, a song you sang or something completely different). Share this experience with a neighbor. Start your sharing with, "The most professional thing I ever did was..." I will ask some of you to share.

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