



UK Unites to Applaud People Working in NHS

What is 'Clapping For Our Carers'?

- On 26th March, at 8 p.m., people applauded those working in the NHS.
- People also cheered, let off fireworks, played instruments and made some noise to say thank you.

On Thursday, at 8 p.m., people around the UK went to their doorsteps, balconies or windows to clap workers in the NHS.

They wanted to show their support for **healthcare** workers who are helping those in need. Healthcare workers include doctors, nurses, pharmacists, carers and **volunteers**.

People didn't just clap to show their appreciation. They also cheered and some even let off fireworks to show their gratitude! Others banged pots or waved flags and some people made their own banners.

A lot of people shared messages of thanks on social media. The royal family shared images of themselves clapping carers. Prince William and Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, wrote a thank-you message to "all NHS staff working tirelessly to help those affected by COVID-19".

On social media, the NHS said the applause around the country was "emotional".

Famous buildings were lit up in blue, the colour of the NHS, including Wembley Stadium, the Shard and the London Eye.

A group called Clap for Carers spread the word about Thursday's event. During the week, they released a message, urging as many people as possible to take part. The group said that NHS workers needed "to know that we are grateful."

Clapping carers hasn't just happened in the UK. In France, people across the country gave rounds of applause for healthcare workers.



Illustration: People clapping NHS workers.

People in Spain and the Netherlands have shown their thanks as well.

Adults in the UK are also going the extra mile to help others in the coming weeks. On Tuesday, the NHS said it wanted 250,000 volunteers to help **vulnerable** people "stay safe and well at home". Over 500,000 people have said they want to help already!

Glossary

NHS	National Health Service, responsible for UK healthcare.
healthcare	People who work to improve people's health, such as doctors.
volunteers	People who give up their time for free to do something.
vulnerable	In need of special care.

Questions

1. Many people consider healthcare workers to be inspirational. Find and copy a piece of evidence that supports this.

2. Find and copy three different types of healthcare worker mentioned in the news story.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. "All NHS staff working tirelessly to help those affected by COVID-19."

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to 'tirelessly'.

determinedly

difficultly

kindly

normally

4. What do you think people wrote on their banners? Explain your answer.

5. How do you think healthcare workers felt about the rounds of applause? Explain your answer.

6. Write a summary of the news story in 20 words or fewer.
