



Careers - Activity plan



Preparation

- Print the skills list sheet – one per learner or one between two.
- Print the my skills and talents sheet – one per learner.
- Print and cut out the career cards – one per group.
- Print adequate blank career cards.

Resources

- Skills List
- My Skills and talents sheets
- Career cards
- Blank career cards

Introduction/context

Introduce the distinction between a job and a career, with an example.
 Job - A regular position for which a person is paid to do particular tasks.
 Career - A job, chosen based on interests and strengths, to follow as a life's work.
 For example, when I was young, I had a job in a supermarket.
 When I left school, I chose to have a career in teaching.
 We need a job to earn money, we choose a career to do something we are passionate about.
 Go through the cards with the whole class, defining tricky words and describing tricky concepts.

Vocabulary

- Career, job, university, volunteer

Timing
10-20 mins

Issue card packs

Issue cards to each table. Allow the learners to explore and discuss them. Ask them to pick out one or two careers that they like and talk together about why they like them.

Timing
30-60 mins

Strengths

Ask the learners to think about their skills. Draw a class mind map of their responses.
 Challenge their idea of skills by separating from school topics (e.g. good communicator rather than good at English, logical rather than good at maths). Use the skills list provided to work through with the class. Try to translate topics into skills and celebrate other skills that they may not have recognised.

Skills and talents sheet

Ask the learners to complete the my skills and talents sheet, to help them think about careers they might want to pursue in the future.

Timing
30-60 mins

Blank cards

Issue the learners two to four blank cards each and set a research task to find out about other jobs. This could be used as a homework task or completed in school. Allow the students to interview you and complete their first career card; Teacher.

Variations/expanding on the activity

Make the activity really fun by asking learners to dress up for the job they like. It might be the casualwear of a digital designer or the formalwear of a business owner. They might have a cardboard phone or roll of 'architect's blueprints'.
 You could arrange visits from people with unusual careers to further inspire them.
 You may like to explore perceptions of success and value. You could have a class debate about the value and importance of different jobs.

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