

New, free online resources for secondary schools available from Monday 5 February

Date: Monday 5 February to Friday 9 February 2024

Location: bbc.co.uk/bitesize/careers

What: 10-minute classroom activities for secondary schools and learners aged 11 to 16. Activity ideas and videos that can be used for a quick activity, adapted into an entire lesson, or developed into a longer activity using the follow-up suggestions provided.

Join us on Monday 5 February for a week of apprenticeship themed daily activities, lesson starters and video content to get your students thinking about future careers and the right path for them.

We will have themed days from Monday-Friday during NAW. There is a pre-planned activity for each day as outlined in this activity guide, ready to use in your classroom. Simply follow the steps below to join in during the week. If that's not possible, the content will remain online and available for you to flexibly at any time.

- **Step 1:** Use this guide to help plan your lessons or form time in advance.
**Please note, you will need access to the internet and a screen.*
- **Step 2:** From Monday 5 February, visit the '[College, apprenticeship and uni](#)' page on the Bitesize Careers website each week day.
- **Step 3:** Click on the links provided on the website and below to access the content and follow the suggested discussion topics with your learners.

Curriculum links

These resources are suitable for teaching careers education in secondary schools for students aged 11 to 16. The collection of content can be used as part of your wider careers programme and has been designed with an educational consultant to help schools meet the [Gatsby Benchmarks for careers guidance](#). They cover a range of topics that can be mapped against benchmarks 2 to 6.

The learning outcomes include:

- Understanding how GCSE or Nationals subjects can link to future career options.
- Have a good understanding of apprenticeships and the options around choosing this as a pathway after GCSEs or Nationals.
- Know how to investigate apprenticeship opportunities linked to personal interests and passions.

How to use the resources:

- **On Monday 5 February**, a series of videos, quizzes and articles will be available on the [Bitesize Careers website](#) to support teachers to deliver careers themed activities in lessons or form time. The videos will remain available afterwards to be used as a teaching resource whenever you need.
- These resources have been curated into short, approximately 10-minute length activities that you could use with students during tutor time, form time, or at the beginning or end of a lesson. If you wish, the ideas can be adapted for a quick activity, an entire lesson or developed into a longer activity using the follow-up activity ideas.
- The activities can be used flexibly in your timetable, for example teachers may wish to do an activity each day in order, or instead might choose one activity from the selection that best fits your class, time and subject. You can also encourage students to investigate the discussion points and website suggestions further in their own time, as well as discuss it with a parent/carer.
- Please note, you will need access to the internet and a screen.
- There are short, student facing videos, quizzes, classroom activities, all centred around the world of jobs and apprenticeships.
- To add to the fun, we've broken the week down into daily themes, but these are suggestions only and resources can be used at any time, on any day.

Myth Busting Monday - debunking common apprenticeship myths

Transferable Skills Tuesday - linking subject skills from school to the world of work

Working World Wednesday - hearing real-life stories of apprentices on the job

Throwback Thursday - learning about inspirational apprenticeship journeys

Your Future Friday - exploring if an apprenticeship could be a good fit for your students

[Click here from Monday 5 February 2024 to access all the National Apprentice Week resources outlined below.](#)

MYTH BUSTING MONDAY

The content below will introduce National Apprenticeship Week by debunking common apprenticeship myths.

VIDEO: As a class, view the short video titled '[Apprenticeships: Busting the myths](#)' that challenges some common misconceptions about apprenticeship.

ARTICLE: Read the article titled '[What is an apprenticeship and how could I get one? FAQs answered](#)' to find out answers to questions your students may have, including how to apply and what qualifications you need.

QUIZ: Students can test what they've learned by taking the quiz '[How much do you know about apprenticeships?](#)' This could be done working together, as a class, or set as a homework activity.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS TUESDAY

The content below will encourage your class to think about the skills they are developing in different subjects and how these can lend well to different types of careers.

VIDEO: As a class, view **The Bitesize Careers Podcast** episode '[Where can my subjects take me?](#)'. It features **Radio 1 presenter Calum Leslie** discussing his career journey. The episode explores some of the transferable skills students can develop in the classroom and how they can lead to a range of jobs.

ACTIVITY: As a follow up activity, you could ask pupils to choose their three favourite subjects and in pairs, discuss what elements they do and don't enjoy.

QUIZ: Afterwards or for homework, take the fun quiz, '[Can you guess the job](#)', which will encourage young people to explore which subjects are used in different types of jobs.

Follow up activities:

1. For the suggested activity above, if students can't think of three subjects they enjoy, perhaps suggest they consider the subjects they chose for their GCSEs, Nationals or perhaps three STEM subjects.

2. Elements of subjects could be specific topics or segments (e.g. preferring human biology over plants and animals). Perhaps they can consider tasks undertaken within a subject (e.g. group activities or independent tasks).
3. If you have access to the internet and a screen, look at the '[jobs that use...](#)' section on the BBC Bitesize Careers website. Look at one or two job profile film examples and identify skills or qualities that are required to do the job. Encourage students to think how these skills or qualities can be developed by studying that subject.

For example, look at the [jobs that use Geography, History and Religious Studies](#) section. Then look at the [ecologist role](#). You'll see that the role requires **organisation, time management, teamwork** and **ICT skills**. Discuss how these skills can be developed through studying Geography or any other subject.

4. Think of a subject (perhaps your own) and ask the students to think of transferable skills that you gain through studying it (e.g. problem solving skills for Maths or research skills for History).
5. Ask the students to write down their top five transferable skills that they would love to use in a job, even if they don't know what job they'd like to do in the future. Examples could include: written communication, verbal communication, listening, problem solving, organisation, teamwork, numeracy, IT, business awareness and leadership.

WORKING WORLD WEDNESDAY

This content below will shed light on what apprenticeships can involve and encourage students to consider what apprenticeship would be best suited to them.

VIDEO: As a class, view the video on the website about engineering [apprentices working at popular UK attractions](#). This features real-life stories and accounts of young people undertaking engineering apprenticeships, what is involved and the skills that are used.

ACTIVITY: After watching the video, ask your students to list the skills these apprentices use and the aspects of the job they enjoy. Encourage students to identify anything on the list that appeals to them. Then ask them to visit the '[College, apprenticeships and uni](#)' page on the Bitesize Careers website to explore the different video job profiles and see if any appeal to them.

As a follow-up activity, you could ask your students to dream up an apprenticeship at a company. In their dream apprenticeship, what would they be doing? What skills would they want to use the most? What company would it be? Where in the world would this be?

Follow-up activities:

1. For the dream apprenticeship activity outlined above, you can guide students to think of a job that might use practical skills, written communication skills, numerical skills or people skills.
2. Find out if there are any current vacancies for their dream apprenticeships by looking on an apprenticeship vacancy website such as the [Find an Apprenticeship](#) government website. Perhaps you could ask for one or two examples of a dream apprenticeship description from students, then you can search this website to see if this type of role exists.

To find out if a particular apprenticeship exists, visit the [Institute of Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#) website.

3. If you're able to find a suitable vacancy example relevant to a student's dream, find out about the skills and qualities needed for such a role and encourage discussion on how the students can develop these through school or extracurricular activities.
4. Ask the class to think of ways to find out about organisations that may offer their dream apprenticeship. How could they research these organisations? For example, this could be through internet searches, research online or having career conversations with people who might know more.

THROWBACK THURSDAY

This content below will illustrate how apprenticeships can lead to all sorts of interesting career paths.

VIDEO: Visit the '[College, apprenticeships and uni](#)' page on the Bitesize Careers website. Scroll down to the job profile videos and watch three profile videos about young apprentices.

ARTICLE: Together as a class or individually, read the article '[Six celebrities who started their careers with apprenticeships](#)'. The article helps show some of the industries that offer apprenticeships.

QUIZ: Take the fun quiz called '[Apprenticeship, university or work?](#)' on the website with your class to help them explore if a job, further education, or an apprenticeship could be the right path for them.

YOUR FUTURE FRIDAY

This content below will encourage students to consider whether an apprenticeship is the right career path for them.

VIDEO: As a class, view **The Bitesize Careers Podcast** episode [‘Is an apprenticeship right for me?’](#) with apprentice Jasmine Shum, which explores **‘your future apprenticeship’**. It discusses what apprenticeships involve and provides inspiration and advice for students who may be interested in pursuing this option.

ACTIVITY: As a follow-up activity, you could ask your students to discuss in pairs why an apprenticeship might or might not suit them and their career path.

QUIZ: To end the week thinking about future jobs and the workplace, try the fun quiz, [‘How could AI affect your job?’](#) to find out some interesting facts about the future of AI at work.

Follow-up activities:

1. Ask students to discuss the pros and cons of doing an apprenticeship versus staying on in full-time education. You could ask two students to give an argument for each option and then get the students to vote for their favourite option.
2. Ask the students if they know anyone who is doing an apprenticeship (e.g. an older sibling). If so, invite them to tell the group about it.
3. It’s possible that parents/carers aren’t aware of up-to-date information about apprenticeships. Find out what they think their parents know and encourage them to think of one thing that they could tell their family about apprenticeships that will increase their knowledge.
4. It may be useful to explain the difference between apprenticeships and [T-levels/BTECs](#).
5. Make sure students are aware of the period they can start looking for apprenticeship vacancies. A good time to begin looking for an apprenticeship starting after Year 11, is in the spring term of Year 11.

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