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THE FUTURE OF WORK: GREEN SKILLS



ABOUT THIS SESSION

Objective: to discuss why green skills are important for the future of work and decide how schools could better prepare students for the future

Key questions: what are green skills? Which green skills are the most important for different jobs? How can schools better prepare students for the future of work?

Before the session you will need to:

- Print the **TEACHER** Instructions
- Print and copy the **STUDENT** Chat mat, and make three more copies
- Print and cut out the Cards **OR** have the Video ready to play (video link: bit.ly/TT_FutureWork)

THIS SESSION DEVELOPS

Sustainable Development Goals

For more information, look here:

sdgs.un.org/goals



Skills



STEP 14

I speak influentially by changing the examples and facts I use to best persuade the listeners



STEP 11

I listen critically and compare different perspectives



STEP 5

I explore problems by thinking about the pros and cons of possible solutions



STEP 9

I develop ideas by asking myself questions

To learn more about the Topical Talk skills, look here: bit.ly/TopicalTalkSkills

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS



ACTIVITY ONE



Split the group into four teams: Team Speaking, Team Listening, Team Creativity and Team Problem-Solving. Teams should move to sit together. Give each team a *Chat mat*.

Ask students to imagine they are running stalls at a green skills fair to help people learn about green jobs in the future of work. Give the **EVENT ORGANISER CARD** to one student to read aloud OR play the *Video* until it says "PAUSE". **Ask:** what are more important: flexible skills that can be applied to any job, or skills that are specific to particular jobs? Why? Give students time to argue for both sides.

Explain: a report by the UK government in July 2021 said that "every UK job has the potential to be green". How is this possible?

If you have printed the *Cards*, choose three students to step away from their stalls and act as visitors to the fair. Give them the *Cards*.

Choose one visitor to read their *Card* aloud. Alternatively, play the *Video* until it says "PAUSE".

Teams should work through the activity on their sheet before taking it in turns to share their pitch. Have a vote for which team did the most convincing pitch – the team with the most votes wins! If there is a tie, the person with the *Card* should decide who wins and explain why. Repeat the activity with the remaining visitors – by reading the *Cards* or playing the *Video*. If you have time, students could invent more visitors with different job descriptions and repeat the activity. **Ask:** is it easy to predict what might happen in the future of work? Why/why not?

Challenge: what might get in the way of more green jobs being created? For example, not enough money for businesses to create green jobs or not enough training in green skills. How could these problems be overcome? And who is responsible?

ACTIVITY TWO

Students should imagine that the event organiser left them the note. Give time for teams to discuss their decisions before sharing with the group. Students should use the sentence starters on the sheet to help them share their opinions. Write the suggested skills on the board.

Ask: if you were running a stall at the next green skills fair, which of these skills would it be easiest to represent? Which would be the hardest? Why? Give teams time to discuss the answers before sharing feedback.

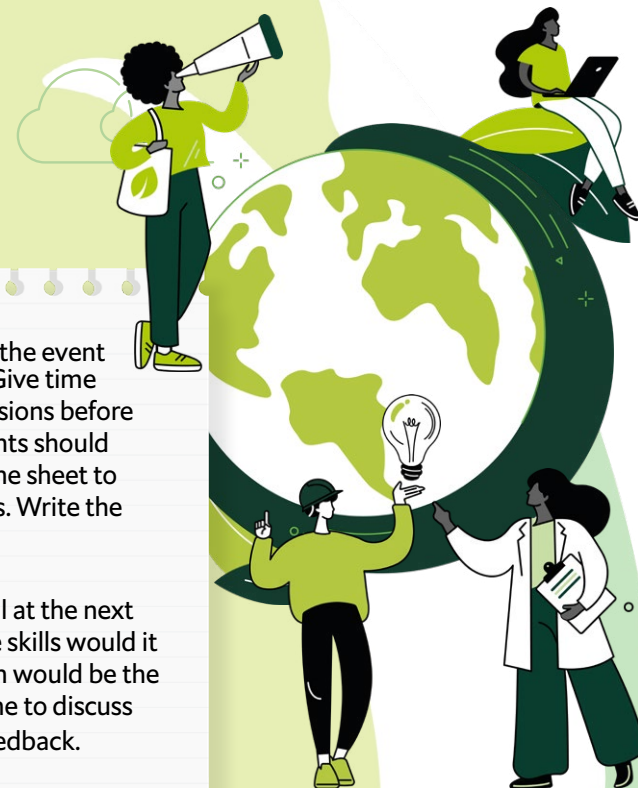
ACTIVITY THREE

Students should imagine that their teacher attended the green skills fair to learn more about how schools can prepare students for the future of work. Ask the following questions. Students should discuss their answers with a partner.

- What job do you want to do in the future? Is it a green job? Or how could it be adapted to be green?
- What green skills will you need for this?
- How are you practising these green skills at school already?
- Is there anything else that could be done to prepare you for the future of work?

SPEEDY SKILLS REVIEW

Give students two minutes to work through the **SPEEDY SKILLS REVIEW**.



STUDENT CHAT MAT



ACTIVITY ONE



Circle your team name. Your job is to tell each visitor to the fair why your skill is the most important green skill for them. Your team should prepare a 60-second pitch and everyone should say something.

Use the following questions to help:

- Is this person's job a green job? Why / why not?
- How might this person use your skill for their job?
- Why might your skill be important for this job in the future? For example, how might the job change to be more environmentally friendly? How might this person have to adapt?
- What other green jobs could this person do? How would your skill help them to make the change?
- Why is your skill more important than the others?

Challenge: how could you use your voices and body language to be more convincing?

ACTIVITY TWO

Hi Team!

Do you have any suggestions for other flexible green skills that might be important for the future of work? For example, resilience. Try to think of three. Don't forget to explain why each one is important – and why it's green!

Thanks, Event Organiser :)

SPEEDY SKILLS REVIEW

How does Topical Talk help you to practise each of the following skills?



I agree because...

But what if...

A different perspective that might agree/disagree with you is... because...

CARDS

EVENT ORGANISER



Hello and welcome to the green skills fair. I am the event organiser.

Climate change is an urgent problem that the world must tackle. In November, world leaders will meet to discuss how to do this at COP26. One way to deal with this problem is for governments to create more green jobs – these are jobs that are kind to the environment.

To work in green jobs, people will need green skills. These are the knowledge, abilities, and values needed to create a more environmentally friendly society. Green skills will be especially important for adapting existing jobs to make them more environmentally friendly.

The World Economic Forum (experts on the future of work) has identified what it thinks are the top ten green skills. Most of them are flexible critical-thinking and communication skills like speaking, listening, creativity and problem-solving.

Today we will meet people who need some help with green skills for the future of work. Your job will be to tell them why your green skill is the most important one for them.

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

Hi, I'm an environment officer for a business that sells drinks. My job is to make sure that everyone who works for us is being as environmentally friendly as possible. For example, I have to think about things like how we use less energy and about how much people are travelling for their work.



OIL RIG ENGINEER

Hello, I work as an engineer on an oil rig. My job is important because oil rigs extract oil from the ground to make fuel. However, with renewable energy sources on the rise, I might have to transfer my skills to a different job in the future. I manage a team that keeps the oil rig working and fixes any problems with the machinery.



SUPERMARKET MANAGER

Hi, I manage a busy supermarket in a big city. I make all the big decisions for the shop, including what products we sell, what rules employees have to follow, what their jobs are and how our business affects the community.

