

# Designing a weather app

- 1** Split the group into pairs. Explain that each pair will be transported to the year 2030. Technology will change a lot in this time but people might still be using mobile apps, so they are going to create one which allows different users to access weather information tailored to their needs.
- 2** Assign each pair a role from the end user profiles cards (found on pages 3–4). Explain that this will be their target audience, or end user (the person that will download and use their app).
- 3** Give each pair a copy of the storyboard template (found on pages 5–7). Using their imagination and creativity, each pair must design three different frames contained in the storyboard template including:
  - Front page or logo for the app – how will they make it stand out from the crowd?
  - The app homepage – what will this include? (E.g. the forecast, tips on what to wear, what the impacts of the weather could be on the individual or their business, suitable outdoor activities, weather warnings)



30 minutes



Groupwork



End user profiles cards



Storyboard template

- The forecast for the time period their target audience is interested in – this could also be a forecast of the impacts of the weather that affect that particular user, e.g. a sailor may want to know if there have been any boating accidents at sea due to storms or other adverse weather

**4** As the pairs are creating their storyboards, remind them to consider their end user profile. Who is using their app and why? Is there a specific target audience? What is that audience interested in? What would be the ‘unique selling point’ of the app which would make it the best on the market? What would make the end user want to buy and download it to their phones/ devices?

**Tip:** If your group has access to the internet and handheld devices, you can download the POP prototyping app to bring the storyboards to life digitally.

Encourage them to be creative in how they’re communicating information to the user, don’t just rely on symbols!

**5** If you have time, ask pairs to present their app ideas to the rest of the class.

# End user profiles cards

## **Meteorologist (Weather forecaster)**

Meteorologists use different scientific techniques to understand and predict how the weather will be in the future.

Meteorologists need to interpret weather data accurately in order to do their job well and make sure people are given the right information about the weather.

## **Construction worker (Builder)**

A construction worker normally works on a building site to make buildings and other types of infrastructure.

Often construction workers work on outdoor sites and might check the weather to see what to wear, and also to see if they need to do anything to protect their equipment and materials e.g. covering up dry materials when it is raining. Some types of work might only be possible in the right weather conditions, particularly if they're working high up.

## **Headteacher**

A headteacher looks after a school or sometimes more than one school, managing staff and overseeing the running of the school in general.

A headteacher might use the weather forecast to change the timetable of outdoor activities e.g. wet play or PE. They might also use it to check for severe weather like storms or snow, to see if they need to close the school in special circumstances.

## **Tennis club manager**

A tennis club manager runs a tennis club facility, ensuring maintenance is done and taking bookings from customers.

A tennis club manager might use the weather forecast to see if they need to cover any tennis courts, and to predict if it will be a busy day (as tennis will normally be more popular in good weather) in order to see how many staff they will need.

# End user profiles cards

## Hospital administrator

Hospital administrators are responsible for the day-to-day running of a hospital, for example checking patients in and out, taking phone calls and making sure there is enough of the right equipment.

Hospital administrators sometimes check for extreme weather to see if there might be more weather-related injuries that day.

## Gardener

A gardener normally designs, builds and/or maintains gardens.

A gardener might check the weather to see what to wear as they will often be outdoors. They will also consider the climate of the location they're working in before planting certain types of plants. Some types of work might only be possible in the right weather conditions. They might also be thinking about designing gardens that can cope with our changing climate.

## Beach Lifeguard

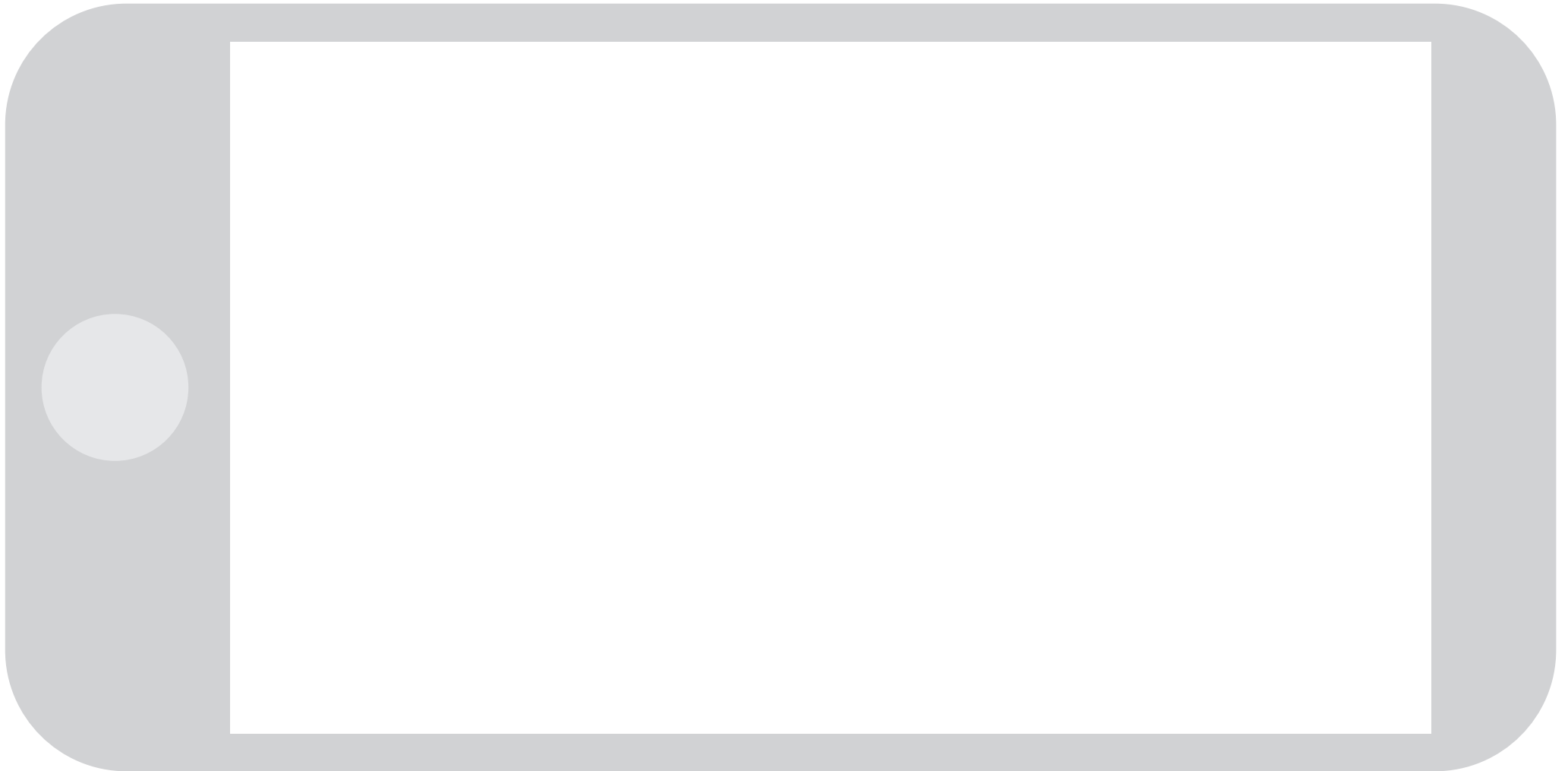
A beach lifeguard helps keep people safe when they visit the beach and go into the sea.

They check the weather forecasts and weather warnings to make sure they know whether the sea conditions will be unsafe for people to swim. For example, it's important to know whether there's likely to be a strong rip tide, which means swimmers may not be allowed to go in the sea.

## Architect

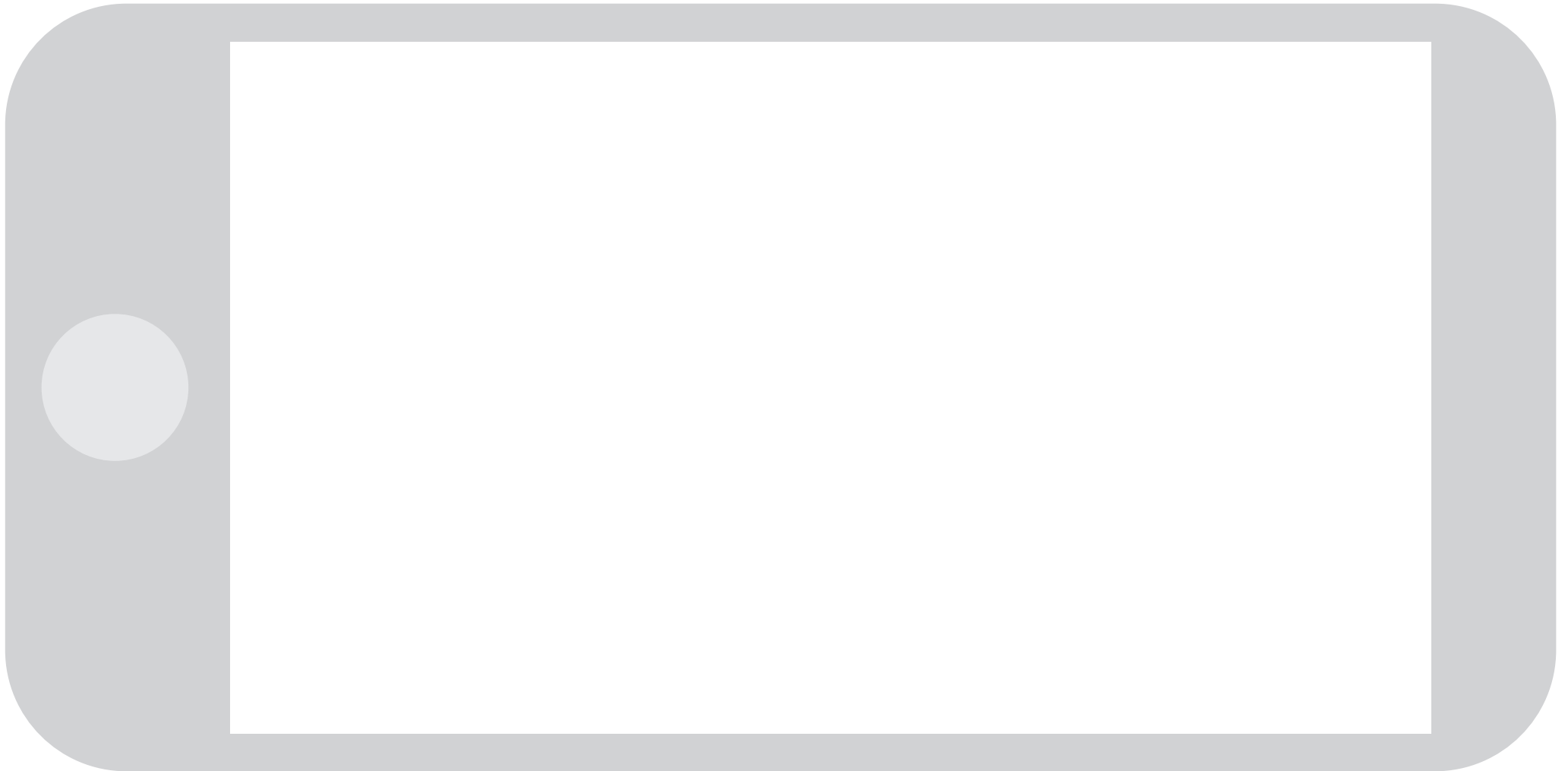
An architect is someone who designs buildings. When they're planning their design, they need to know what the climate is like in the location where the building will be – what are the usual temperatures, how much rain is typical, what is the wind like? They also look at whether the area experiences extreme weather events, such as tornadoes or flooding. They can then make sure the building they're designing can cope with the weather it will experience.

# Storyboard template



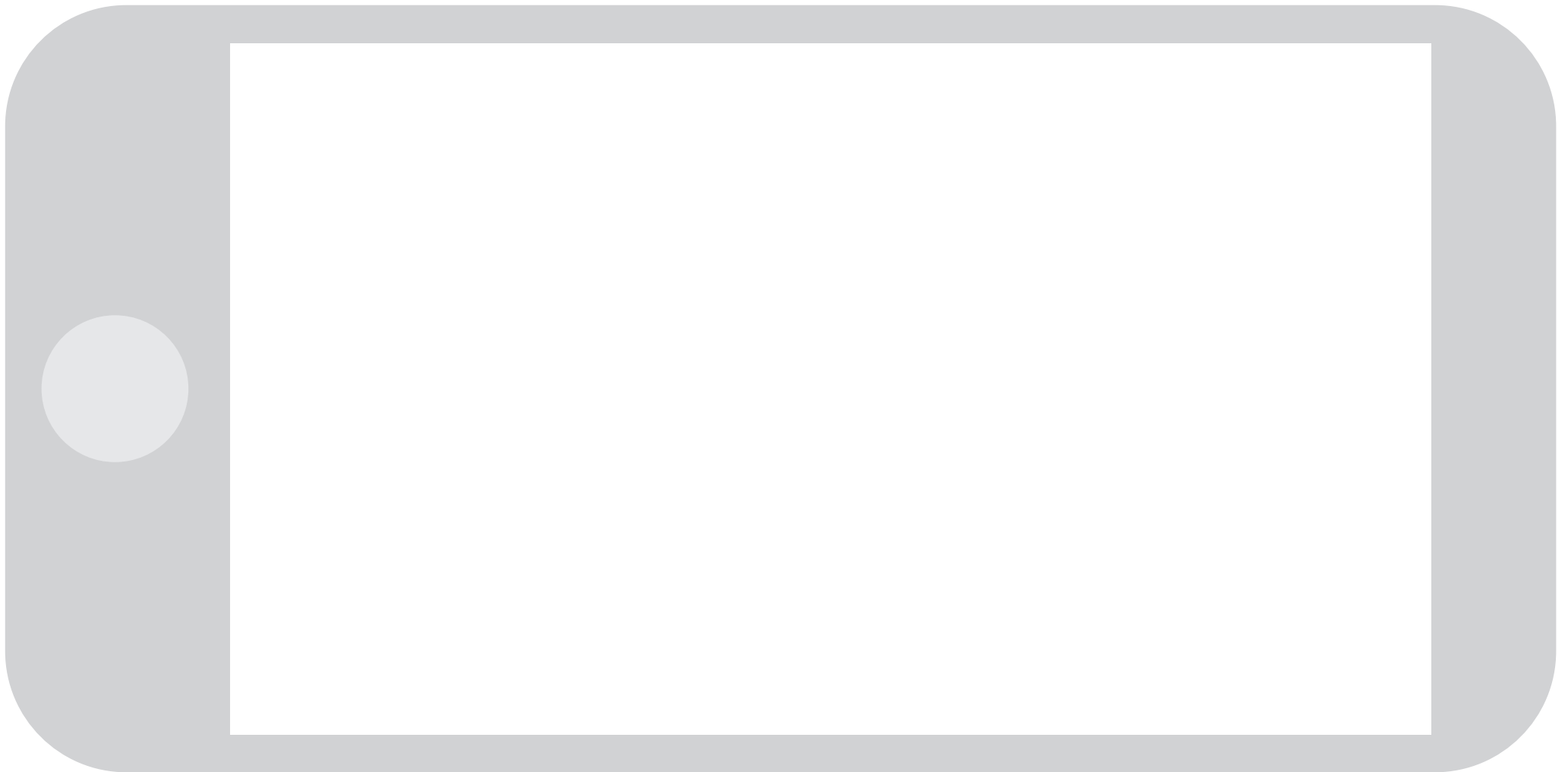
**Front page or logo for the app – how will you make it stand out from the crowd?**

# Storyboard template



**Homepage — what will this include?**

# Storyboard template



**The forecast for the time period your audience is interested in**