



# Skills matching

- 1** In this activity, the group is going to look at the skills and abilities needed in a range of different careers. Start things off by reading off the following careers which are also illustrated on the slides:
 

Sailor; farmer; lorry driver; pilot; meteorologist (weather forecaster); construction worker (builder); head teacher; tennis club manager; hospital administrator; gardener; beach lifeguard and architect
- 2** Explain any career the group isn't familiar with, then ask them to put their hand up if they think the weather is important to a person doing this job. Reveal that the answer is that weather is important for all of these jobs!
- 3** Break the group into smaller groups or pairs, assigning each a different job from this list. For each career, read out the accompanying case study (on pages 4 to 6) which outlines the main roles and responsibilities of a person's career. Depending on the ability of the group, you may wish to hand out the case studies as print-outs, or get the group to listen carefully before moving on, as a further comprehension activity



20 minutes



Groupwork



Skills matching slides



Case study template



Case studies

**4** Explain that they will need to create a skills profile for the person in their case study using the information given and the case study template (on page 7). Give the class some guidance on the kinds of information they will need to record on their job profile to present at the end of the lesson:

- The top skills and strengths they need to have
- The subjects they need to be good at
- The types of personality traits they would need to have
- Who they help/who benefits from their work
- The problems they might have to solve
- How weather influences this job

They can also consider what skills they already learn at school which might help the person do their job (writing, reading, listening, measuring and evaluating)

### Tip

To adapt this activity for more advanced groups, ask young people to imagine that they're applying to work on the same team as the person in their case study. Individually, they will need to identify their own strengths and reflect on the 'gaps' or areas they need to work on. They can then either present this to the class (as per step 3) and/or record their ideas as a poster, mind map or action plan

**5** To bring the activity to a close, have a reflective discussion where each small group or pair talks about one new thing they learnt about their assigned career

### Optional extension

If you have time, ask the small groups or pairs to present their case studies back to everyone, planning beforehand who will present what. Encourage them to listen actively and take notes on the skills they list, one thing they liked, one thing they would suggest.

After each group has presented, ask the others to share feedback and thoughts using prompt questions such as:



20 minutes



Groupwork

- Did anyone have similar skills and qualities for their profile? Why do you think you had similar answers?
- Who is helped and why is it important to support them?
- Where do you gain these skills and are these skills you could use for other careers?
- How might these skills be transferable to different types of careers?

# Weather heroes case studies

## Sailor

Sailors work as a member of the crew on a sail boat which they maintain and operate. Sailors need to know how strong the wind is going to be, when it will be windy and in which direction. Sailors also need to check for dangerous storms, either to try and avoid them or at least make sure the boat is prepared to minimise any danger or damage (sails put away etc.) They will also be interested in whether the sea is calm or very rough.

## Farmer

Farmers grow plants and/or animals for food and other uses. Many farmers work on big pieces of land.

Farmers need to know if and when they can do certain tasks. Some tasks like harvesting might be much more difficult in wet weather, and other weather like frost might ruin crops. Dry weather might mean the farmer needs to water crops more or make sure animals have shelter from the sun.

## Lorry driver

Lorry drivers drive big trucks, sometimes over very long distances. They transport all kinds of goods, sometimes delivering materials to factories to be made into other things, and sometimes delivering products to shops to sell. Lorry drivers need to look out for signs of wet weather as driving in the rain or snow can be dangerous – the tyres of a lorry might not have the same grip on the road when it's raining or snowy. The wind can also affect lorry drivers, as strong gusts can blow trucks over – especially if they're carrying lighter loads, like crisps!

## Pilot

A pilot (sometimes called an aviator) controls the flight of an aircraft.

Pilots need to know the weather at their destination to make sure they can land safely. In the case where severe weather hits, for example a storm or dense fog, pilots may not even be able to take off as it is too risky for them and their passengers, so it's important they know this ahead of time. They also need to know how fast the wind is blowing at the height they're flying at, as this will influence how much fuel they need.

# Weather heroes case studies

## **Meteorologist (Weather forecaster)**

Meteorologists use different scientific techniques to understand and predict what 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. sports day, 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.

## **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 to protect them from the rain, or water them more during a dry spell, 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.

# Weather heroes case studies

## Hospital administrator

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

Hospital administrators might check the weather forecast, looking out for extreme weather to see if there might be more weather-related injuries or illness in the near future.

## 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 sea conditions will be safe for people to swim. For example, it's important to know whether there's likely to be a strong rip tide, meaning 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. This includes the average and extreme temperatures, how much rain is typical and the usual wind patterns. 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.

# Case study template

**Job title:**

**Description of job:**

**Skills/qualifications  
needed:**

**Influence of the weather on  
the job:**

**Who they help/who  
benefits from their work:**

**The problems they might  
have to solve:**