

# Lesson plan

## What is work?



45  
Minutes

11-14  
Age

KS3:L11  
PSHE

### Learning outcome(s)

#### By the end of the lesson students will:

- Outline what work is
- Explain the various reasons why people work
- Describe the different ways people are employed
- Define different work styles and workplaces

### Summary of the lesson

Not everyone does a typical 9am-5pm working day. Students will explore the different types of employment; part time, flexi-working, self-employed, freelance, etc. Each employee also has different priorities and skills in the workplace. Students will also discover why people work and the different ways of working. These will be learnt through an interactive higher/lower quiz, through group discussion and individual reflection.

#### Classroom requirements

- Interactive whiteboard
- Accompanying PowerPoint slides
- Paper and pens for each student

#### Suitable for students aged

11-14

#### Time required to complete tasks

45 mins max

#### Gatsby Benchmarks covered



#### Learning area in the CDI Career Development Framework

Explore possibilities

#### Programme of Study for PSHE Education

KS3:L11

#### Skills Builder Universal Framework



# Lesson activities

## 1. What is work definition

Ask students to read the definition. Do they have any other thoughts; is there more to work than described?

**Time  
Required**

**2  
Min**

**Resources**

PowerPoint Slide 2

## 2. Why do people work?

Working in groups of four, ask students to write down ideas to answer the question, why do people work?

Each group feeds back five ideas each. Reveal answers on PowerPoint Slide 3.

**Time  
Required**

**15  
Min**

**Resources**

PowerPoint Slide 3  
Paper and pen per group

## 3. Different types of employment

Play higher/lower game with students. Ask students to write down whether they think the next statistic will be higher or lower than the previous one.

Before each question there is a short description to explain that type of employment, and then the answer is revealed.

Different types of employment covered, includes:

- Full time
- Part time
- Self-employed
- Temporary and permanent contracts
- Job sharing
- Flexi-time
- Entrepreneurs/SMEs
- Average number of careers

**Time  
Required**

**15  
Min**

**Resources**

PowerPoint Slides 4-14  
Paper and pen per student



## 4. Different ways of working

Working individually, ask students to rank the different work styles shown on PowerPoint Slide 15 in order of importance to them under three headings: 'would like', 'not sure' and 'would not like'.

Then ask them to do the same ranking exercise for the different workplaces on PowerPoint Slide 16.

Work styles include:

- Working independently
- Seeking success
- Hard working
- Leading others/being managed
- Group work
- Using your own ideas
- Practical/physical/theoretical
- Reflective/amenable
- Conceptual/analytical
- Proactive/explorative
- Wide or narrow focus
- Target driven
- Long hours verses a better work/life balance

Workplace includes:

- Physically active work
- Working outdoors
- Working indoors
- Dealing with the public
- At home
- In an office or company premises
- On site or at a client's premises
- Desk based or more mobile
- In a modern building/office

Time  
Required

10  
Min

### Resources

PowerPoint Slides  
15-16

Paper and pen per  
student

## Differentiation

PowerPoint Slide 17

Using the list of jobs on the next page, ask students to work out what types of employment are possible in each job, and which work styles and workplace apply to each job. This should begin to give students an idea of the types of careers that match their own work preferences.



## Differentiation (continued)

- Doctor
- Hairdresser
- Lawyer
- Teacher
- Accountant
- Police Officer
- Engineer
- Vet
- Nurse
- Designer
- Business Manager
- Research Scientist
- Performing Arts
- Motor Mechanic
- Games Designer/Developer
- Bricklayer

Students can refer to the relevant career profiles in their Morrisby account if they need to find out more about these job roles or alternatively they could use another careers database such as <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>. A computer or device would be required for this.

## Extension activities



Encourage students to talk to two adults they know (eg a relative, family friend or neighbour) to find out what type of employment they have (eg full-time, part-time, self-employed etc), where they work and what their regular work tasks are. Students reflect on whether what the adults describe to them appeals to them and why. They could write these up as case studies.

Students with a Morrisby account add this activity as a goal to their Morrisby Action Plan.

