

Lesson plan

Green careers



40
Minutes

14-16
Age

KS4:L8/L10
PSHE

Learning outcomes

By the end of the lesson students will:

- Consider what a green career is and broaden their understanding of green opportunities across a range of sectors
- Identify environmental issues that interest them and explore related careers
- Identify aspects of a job role that help support a healthy environment

Summary of the lesson

This lesson will help students explore green issues in the world of work. The lesson begins with a short video to stimulate class discussion. An exercise in pairs, followed by individual research into a career of their choosing, will help students develop the skills to evaluate and prioritise their own personal values in relation to choosing a green career path.

Classroom requirements

- SMART board
- Accompanying PowerPoint slides
- Computer/device per student
- **How green is that career?** worksheets, one per student

Suitable for students aged:

14 - 16

Time required to complete tasks

40 mins max

Gatsby Benchmarks covered



Area of learning in CDI Careers Framework

Explore possibilities / See the big picture

Learning opportunity in Programme of Study for PSHE Education

KS4:L8/L10

Skills Builder Universal Framework



Lesson activities

1. Introduction to green careers

Note to teacher: this lesson is designed to encourage students to think beyond careers that we traditionally identify as green. Whatever a student's career interests there are possibilities to develop a greener career path.

Show the video *Why I love my green career* from BBC Bitesize. In the video meet Charlotte, a sludge scientist, or process optimisation manager, who leads a team who turn sewage into a useful renewable energy source.

Questions to ask the class after watching the video:

- Why does Charlotte love her job? What motivates her?
- What impact does she make through her job?
- Can you give a definition of a green job? (Note: there's no universally accepted definition. Broadly speaking a job can be considered green if it has a net positive impact on the environment and/or climate).
- What other green careers can the class think of? Ask students to brainstorm and write their suggestions on the board.

It's likely that students will suggest careers within traditional green career sectors, such as renewable energy, waste management, ecology. The next activity will get students to think more broadly about non-traditional or unconventional green careers.

Time
required

10
Min

Resources

Access the video here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zq6kkty>

2. Environmental issues

Show PowerPoint Slide 2. In this activity students will consider which environmental issues are important to them and the environmental impact they could make in their everyday life and through their career. Some example issues are shown on the slide for students who need a prompt.

In pairs:

- Choose one environmental issue and share why it's important to you
- How do you address this issue in your everyday life?
- How could you address this issue in your career?

Time
required

10
Min

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 2



2. Environmental issues (continued)

After a couple of minutes ask for feedback from one or two pairs on the issues they discussed. In particular, what ideas did they have for addressing environmental issues through their career?

Then show PowerPoint slide 3 which shows 9 green goals (listed below) in areas where green jobs are available and where individuals could make a real difference.

- Protecting plant and animal species
- Understanding planet earth
- Reducing the impact of human activity
- Encouraging green lifestyles
- Advocating for the environment
- Increasing public awareness
- Green Innovation
- Greening our communities
- Protecting public health

In their pairs again, ask students to match the jobs on the right to the green goals on the left. Allow a minute for this exercise then reveal the answers on PowerPoint Slide 4. Is anyone surprised by the range of jobs that could be described as green?

There are lots of other jobs that align with these green goals. Show PowerPoint slide 5 for more examples.

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 3

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 4

PowerPoint Slide 5

3. Activity: How green is that career?

Students now have the opportunity to investigate the environmental impact of a career that interests them. They may need help with this so before completing their own research, as a class, show slide 6 with chef as an example career. The slide shows a job task for a chef, with the potential impact of that task on the environment and an adjustment to the task which could lessen its impact.

Can anyone suggest another job task for a chef? How does the task impact the environment? If it is potentially harmful, what adjustment could be made to the job task to lessen the impact?

Then give out the worksheet, **How green is that career?** Ask students to write down a career of their choosing under the heading **Choose a career** before working through the questions on the worksheet.

Time
required

20
Min

Hand out worksheet

Note: for this exercise each student needs internet access



Differentiation

Some students may need help to interpret careers information.



Extension activities

To extend their research for the activity How green is that career? students could use the resources links in their Morrisby account or search online for other resources.

For further research and exploration in their own time students may find these resources useful:

- BBC Bitesize videos in the Green careers series at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/z2hvydm/green-careers/1>
- How to get a green job - top tips from young people working in sustainable roles <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/climate/how-get-green-job>
- Advice from Target Careers on finding a graduate job that helps the environment <https://targetjobs.co.uk/careers-advice/career-ideas/green-careers-find-graduate-job-helps-environment>

