

Skills



Recommended:
8th grade



Length:
85 minutes

About this lesson

To explore how skills can be developed and transferred to careers, students will reflect on the skills they are already practising, identify those they desire to use in the future, and analyze how skills they develop in various contexts are transferable to the workplace.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- explore the skills required to perform various activities
- investigate the link between their skills and career goals
- explain how transferable skills are developed through their school, extracurricular, and/or community experiences
- analyze how they contribute to their readiness for future educational, life, and work opportunities and to their career development

Driving question

What skills will I need to work in the jobs of the future?

Future-ready skills

Self-knowledge

Self-confidence

Self-efficacy

Lesson breakdown

15
minutes

Activity 1: Update my skills

Direct students to review their **Skills** section on their **About Me** profile. Have them use this time to explore all the 6 **Skills categories** and add any skills they are currently working on and they have attained to some degree. Rate each skill based on their self-determined attainment level: 1 star (beginner), 2 stars (rising star), or 3 stars (master). Work with your students to further define these levels.

35
minutes

Activity 2: Xello lesson: Skills

In this activity, students will complete the Xello lesson titled **Skills**, where they will explore the skills required to perform various activities, as well as the link between their skills and career goals.

30
minutes

Activity 3: Transferable skills

In this activity, students will take a closer look at the skills required for 3 careers of interest, reflect on the ways they are practicing their desired skills, and identify ways to develop new or transferable skills.

10
minutes

Optional activity: Interest share part 2

Build on the **Interest share** spreadsheet started in Activity 4 from the **Interests** supplementary lesson. Add a new column to the spreadsheet called **Transferable skills** and have students add associated skills required or practised for the listed activities to reveal opportunities for further skill exploration and development.



Xello entry point

Before starting this lesson students need to save 3 careers and be familiar with their **About Me** page. It's also recommended they have completed all 3 phases of the **Matchmaker** interest assessment (**Matchmaker**, **Personality styles**, and **Mission complete**).

Vocabulary

- Transferable skills
- Skill building
- Practice
- Skill attainment

xello

Activity 2: Xello Lesson: Skills



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About this activity

In activity 1, students reviewed their **Skills** section on their **About Me** profile to add and rate any skills they are currently working on and have attained to some degree.

Their next step is to complete the **Skills** lesson in Xello! This lesson will help students better understand the skills required to perform various activities, as well as the link between their skills and career goals.

Inquiry prompts

- What is a skill? What are transferable skills?
- What skills do you use at school? What skills do you use outside of school?
- What skills are you most proud of? What are some skills you'd like to improve?
- What skills do you think are required to perform some of the jobs at a school (e.g. teacher, principal, custodian)?
- Think of someone who has a skill you admire. Why do you admire that skill?

Before you begin

Before diving in with your students:

1. Create a copy or download the [Skills slide presentation](#) to use as a helpful teaching aid before and after the Xello lesson.
2. Review the slides (including the speaker notes section) for discussion strategies and prompts.
3. Update slide 5 of the presentation with your students' Xello sign in format. If you don't know your students' Xello login format check out [Sign in to Xello](#) for support.

Teaching strategies

Use the following strategies to set your students up for success:

- 1 Before students start the Xello lesson, engage them in a classroom discussion using a few of the inquiry prompts from the **Warm up** activity slide of the [Skills slide presentation](#), or choose your own.
- 2 Help your students log into their Xello account. Project your screen as you model how to navigate to the lesson using your demo student account. From the student dashboard, click on a lesson to get started. If the lesson you want isn't visible, access it by selecting **View all lessons** below the lessons shown.
- 3 Students finished early? If students have time after completing the Xello lesson, encourage them to revisit their career matches and read 1-2 **Career Interviews** from careers of interest, paying attention to the skills required for that career.
- 4 Once students have completed the Xello lesson, return to the [Skills slide](#)

Materials required

- Computers or tablets with internet access
- Whiteboard/projector
- [Skills slide presentation](#)

Prerequisites

- Save 3 careers

Artifacts

Students will complete the Xello lesson: **Skills**.

Activity 2: Xello Lesson: Skills



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[presentation](#) to have students revisit their answers to the inquiry prompts you posed at the beginning of class.

- 5 **Classroom discussion strategy: Think-pair-share:** Direct students to choose a partner. Assign each pair one of the suggested inquiry prompts and give them 2-3 minutes to consider their answers. Then have them turn to their partners and take turns sharing their answers.

OPTIONAL: Think-pair-share-square: Once students have shared their answers with their partners, direct them to join up with another pair and take turns sharing their answers.

Activity 3: Transferable skills



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Length:
30 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- How am I currently practicing my desired skills?
- How can I continue to improve my desired skills?

Teaching strategies

In this activity, students will reflect on the ways they are practicing their desired skills and identify within 3 careers of interest the skills they desire to improve.

- 1 Provide the [instructions](#) on the next page to your students.

Materials required

- [Student instructions](#)
- Computer or tablet with internet access
- Optional: Collaborative spreadsheet (ie. Google Sheets)

Artifacts

For 3 saved careers, students will identify skills they are practising today and skills they'd like to develop further as a way to demonstrate their understanding of transferable skills.

Transferable skills

Student instructions

How do your current experiences help you prepare for career related skills? The different tasks you do every day need a range of skills. Whether it's doing group work or helping cook dinner, you need to make use of a variety of skills. Many skills you are using and developing today will transfer to other future experiences, including your career. Complete the following for 3 saved careers:

- 1 At the top of the profile, choose an emoji to indicate how you feel about this career.
- 2 Take a look at the skills used by reviewing them within the **Find out why** area of the career profile. Note down 1 skill you are actively practising today and 1 you desire to work on more.
- 3 Within the **My notes** section at the top of the career profile, record reflections for these 2 skills:
 - Explain how you are practising one skill today, and how you think it could transfer to this career.
 - Identify one skill you'd like to develop further, and explain one type of opportunity you could pursue to explore and develop this skill.