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Costain Bingo

Series: Careers in STEM lesson plans

Time needed: 60 minutes

Get students thinking creatively about the range of careers available in STEM sectors.

Aims

- Breakdown careers stereotypes
- Develop a wider understanding of the range of careers in one sector

Key learning outcomes

By the end of the activity students will:

- Understand that most sectors have a range of jobs and don't just start and end with the obvious choices
- Understand the need of a diverse workforce

Resources

- Access to Plotr via computers or iPads
- Career Bingo cards for each student
- Career Bingo pictures for each student
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers (coins, carrot slices, soybeans etc.)

Use me during:

 Science, Technology, Engineering (DT) or Maths lessons

Introduction

In this Bingo game example we have used the **Costain World** from the Plotr website as our theme, Costain is a big employer in the UK and specialises in Engineering and Construction.

The construction industry contributes more than £90.bn to the economy and more than 2 million people are employed in the sector. Many young people think that construction jobs are typically manual labour (builders, electricians, plasterers etc), this is certainly not the case. Civil engineers, architects, planners, managers and surveyors make up this diverse and challenging sector.

Engineering is also a major sector in the British economy, the role engineering plays on the lives we live today and how we will live in the future is colossal. Civil, mechanical and industrial engineers are in high demand in the labour market and with the advance of technology there is no better time to consider a role in some form of engineering.

Careers in construction and engineering can offer excellent benefits; salaries, travel, training and development. The sectors are also keen to engage with young talent with a number of STEM initiatives, projects to address stereotyping and investment in school leaver and graduate programmes. There is lots to explore and Plotr can help your students on their journey.

In this activity your students will explore plotr.co.uk and then play a game of bingo that is focused on the world of Costain, the game can be adapted to other worlds and careers too.

Task

1. Introduce Plotr

- Introduce Plotr as a place to find out about careers and jobs, and to hear from companies about what it is like to work there.
- Ask students if they've used the site when researching jobs/ opportunities? What tools have they used, if any?
- Explain that plotr.co.uk allows you to play the Game to find out what jobs you're suited to, and that it allows you to look at specific Career Industries and Career Worlds etc.













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Refer to the Quick Start Guide for more detailed information.

2. Set the task

- Discuss with the students the various careers in the Construction and Engineering Sectors. How many different jobs do they know? How many items in the room can the student's think of that were influenced by engineering? Are there any engineering or construction companies in your area, does anyone know someone who works for them?
- Do they think some jobs are best suited to boys or girls? Why?
- Split the class into two, ask half the students to go onto **www.plotr.co.uk** and type into the search "construction", and the other half search for "engineering". Students can start to explore different career roles, vacancies and information about the sector. Are there any jobs they have never heard of before, are they surprised at the salaries? Students can then share what they find with classmates.

3. Play Bingo

- Give each student a Bingo Card and a pictures worksheet, scissors and glue. Students must cut out the pictures from the worksheet and make up their bingo cards so each card is unique.
- · Hand out markers
- Using an extra copy of the worksheet call out careers until a student has a line or all corners

Plenary

What have the students learnt today? Did they know there was so many careers related to this subject? Do any of them think they would like one of the careers they have learnt about?

Follow on activities

- See www.plotr.co.uk for more lesson plans and careers inspiration
- Play the Plotr psychometric game with your students
- Play Career Bingo with other sectors
- Share the activity with subject leaders in the school (particularly science and D&T)
- Invite a professional in from one of the careers identified and ask the students to interview them
- Plan a field trip to a local engineering or construction firm















Career Bingo Game Card













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