

Skills lab



Length

40-45 minutes

About this lesson

Students will use their results in Xello's **Skills lab** to better understand how their skills might be used in a future career.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson students will:

- complete their **Skills lab** assessment
- update their skills and careers in **About me**
- reflect on their identified skills and how they might be used in a future career
- consider how different careers align with their skills, personal values, future aspirations, and lifestyle goals
- understand why careers are assigned certain match levels by clicking on **Find out why**.

Inquiry prompts

- How often would I like to use various skills in my future career?

Before you begin

1. Ensure that you are able to log into your student demo account in Xello.
2. Ensure that students are able to log into their accounts, can access **About me**, and have completed the first phase of the **Matchmaker** assessment.
3. Decide whether to share directions with your class via a slide deck and project for students to view, or on a whiteboard in the physical classroom.
4. Create a Xello **Assignment**. This is where students will submit their reflections at the end of the lesson.

Teaching strategies

- 1 Model accessing the **Skills lab** assessment in **About me** for your class.
- 2 Instruct students to complete the **Skills lab** assessment from their **About me** page.
- 3 After students have completed the **Skills lab** assessment, have them review their results and reflect on the following: which skills do you want to use always or often? And which skills do you rarely or never want to use?
- 4 Instruct students to add the top 3-5 skills that they want to use always or often to their **About me Skills** section. Rate each skill (1 star = beginner, 2 stars = rising star, or 3 stars = master). You may want to model doing this with one or two skills of your own first. Remind students that even if they want to use these skills always or often, it doesn't mean they are a master of them now. They still have lots of time to develop these skills further.

Materials required

- Computers or tablets with Internet access
- Whiteboard and whiteboard markers (optional)

Outcomes

Students

- complete their **Skills lab** assessment
- update their skills and careers in **About me**
- reflect on their identified skills and how they might be used in a future career

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- 5 Which careers share a similar skill set to those students desire to use? From Careers under **Explore Options**, students should use the **Skills lab** filter to order the list of career matches based on their answers to the assessment. Remind students that they can always hide a career from their match results, if it does not align with their personal values, future aspirations, or lifestyle goals.
- 6 Now instruct students to explore some career profiles with the intention to save at least 3 they'd consider as possibilities for themselves. For each profile, ask them the following:
 - Learn why the career has been assigned the match level (excellent, good, fair, or poor) by clicking on **Find out why** at the top of the profile. Review the overall match calculation and confirm your **Matchmaker** and **Skills lab** answers accurately reflect your likes, dislikes, and preferences.
 - Do the core tasks and workplace description align with your interests and values?
 - Is your personality style well-suited for this career?
 - Does the mid-range salary meet your lifestyle goals?
- 7 After saving at least 3 careers, within each career profile students should update how they feel about the career, and add why they think they like a particular skill in the **Likes and Dislikes** investigate card.
- 8 As an activity wrap-up, share the top 5 saved skills from the **Student Work Report** from your Xello Educator account. Use the **Group** filter to show the results for just your list of students.
- 9 Ask the students to discuss in small groups or share as a class:
 - Why do you think these are the top identified skills? Which of these skills appeared in your career exploration and how do they relate to tasks within that career?
- 10 Have students record their thoughts from the discussion and submit to their Xello **Assignment**.