




Use technicians' stories as career case studies

How to use the [technicians' stories](#) as case studies in your subject lessons to show students where an interest in the subject can take them.

 30 minutes

Key objectives

- Support students to explore real life case studies of diverse technicians
- Subject-specific follow up discussion: explore how the skills and knowledge from their subject are relevant to the technician's role
- Understand that technicians are a diverse range of people doing a wide range of jobs linked to the subjects and skills they are already developing

Gatsby Benchmarks

1. A stable careers programme ✓
2. Learning from career and labour market information ✓
3. Linking curriculum learning to careers ✓

Running the activity

- Start by asking students what kind of careers they think an interest in the subject usually leads to – ask students to reflect independently initially and then turn and talk with their classmates in pairs or small groups. Ask students to write down two ideas on their mini whiteboards
- Encourage collaborative idea generation – adding each group's ideas to the spider diagram on the board
- Pick a few examples and ask students to discuss why they have chosen these – does it link to topic areas they are currently studying? Is it about the knowledge or skills in their lessons?
- Ensure that students can identify the meaning and some examples of skills, both transferable job specific: this might be linked to previous work, or need explanation. Discuss the skills developed in that subject
- Then play 2-3 videos of [technicians' stories](#). Ask students to note specific skills that each technician uses in their role:
 - **Are these the kinds of jobs they expected the subject to lead to?**
 - **Were the people they saw what they expected to see?**
 - **Were there any roles linked to the subject that surprised them?**
 - **Can they see links between the role the technician talked about and the way they study the subject?**
 - **Ask them which of the stories they were most interested in. Could they see themselves doing any of these jobs?**
 - **Ask them to reflect on the skills they noted down. How many of them do they think they're developing in the subject? Ask them to give examples of how**

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You don't have to be the person actually baking the cake to work in the food industry, there are lots of different jobs within the sector.

▶▶ Next steps

Follow up

Ask students to do a deep dive into the technician's story they were most interested in and prepare a poster or fact file about their role.

You may also want to explore the [creative tasks](#) to further explore the technician stories with your students.