

Lesson plan

Apprenticeships/Traineeships

50 +
Minutes

14-16
Age

Learning outcome(s)

By the end of the lesson students will:

- Describe what an apprenticeship or traineeship is
- Explain the pros and cons
- Detail the different levels
- Understand how to research them

Summary of the lesson

Short videos introduce students to apprenticeships and traineeships. Through a group discussion they learn about the pros and cons of these. In small groups they research apprenticeships and traineeships using three websites - Australian Apprenticeship Pathways, Australian Apprenticeships and Fair Work to discover rates of pay.

Classroom requirements:

- Interactive board
- Accompanying PowerPoint slides
- Computer or tablet for every 2-3 students
- Wi-fi access
- Paper and pens for each group

Suitable for students aged:

14-16

Time required to complete tasks:

50 min minimum

Lesson activities

1. Introduction

Students watch videos that introduce the structure of apprenticeships and traineeships and explore the stories of young apprentices and trainees, including School Based.

Use Skills Road – The World of Apprenticeships and Traineeships – until the section on finding an apprenticeship or traineeship (halfway through)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_NyfgNIGUw

+ Apprenticeships and Traineeships from FairWorkGovAU (key tips) -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=em_rT3ssCRk

Time
Required

10
Min

Resources

Websites as detailed.

2. Pros and cons exercise

In groups of four, ask students to discuss and write down the pros and cons of apprenticeships and traineeships.

Each group to feedback their discussion (try to avoid repetition), which the teacher writes as two lists on the whiteboard. The teacher can highlight any points the students don't identify from the points listed below:

Pros

- Earn rates of pay that increase with training – but vary across type of apprenticeship or traineeship, and whether or not school based, full-time or adult
- Work towards a qualification which may set a pathway to diploma and degree levels
- Qualification paid for by the employer, so no debt for you to pay off

Time
Required

15
Min

Resources

Paper and pens per group



2. Pros and cons exercise (continued)

- Variety of roles in a range of sectors e.g. apprenticeships in traditional, practical trade areas (e.g. construction, engineering, hairdressing) and traineeships in a broad range of areas (e.g. technology, business, healthcare, community services, sport and recreation)
- Gain work experience and work-based skills, both valued by future employers
- Potential for an offer of employment from your employer on completion of the apprenticeship or traineeship
- Make friends with other apprentices
- Test out career ideas
- Boost your confidence
- Can be started while at school
- Qualifications accepted nationally

Cons

- Not an easy option; can be difficult to balance work and study
- Can be competitive to secure a place in some apprenticeships and traineeships
- You need to know what job you want to do at an early age
- You may have to live away from home, but not in a student environment (missing out on the university campus experience)
- You won't have a lot of annual leave; you may have to work when your friends are on holiday

3. Apprenticeship and Traineeship levels

Teacher explanation with support from PowerPoint Slide 2: There are different levels or types of apprenticeship and traineeships which students can apply for.

Teacher introduces AAP Pathways website to illustrate this at <https://www.aapathways.com.au/career-research/job-pathways>

Through the pathways in Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management AHC, teacher can show how a Traineeship at Level 2 (e.g. Landscaping Assistant) can lead to an Apprenticeship at Level III (e.g. Landscape Gardener) and to qualifications beyond that.

**Time
Required**

**3
Min**

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 2
Website as detailed

4. Which level or type is right for me?

Students work in groups of 2/3 and are given one of the case studies, PowerPoint Slide 3, to discuss. They must decide which level of apprenticeship or traineeship their case study student could consider. Each group to feedback their discussion to the class.

Learning points include:

- Students may apply for traineeships at Level 2 and progress through Certificate levels to Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas (Teachers should explain these can be accepted for entry to degrees)
- Apprenticeships and traineeships offer different skills and experiences to the equivalent level school qualification
- Distance from home needs to be considered when applying for apprenticeships or traineeships

**Time
Required**

**20
Min**

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 3
Laptop/tablet per group

4. Which level or type is right for me? (continued)

- Students should consider whether or not the apprenticeship or traineeship can provide the experience and qualifications they seek, or are other steps required?
- There is no single rate of pay for apprenticeships and traineeships – this varies, but there are annual pay increases as competencies are gained (a second-year apprentice or trainee earns more than a first-year)
- There isn't one national deadline for vacancies; they are available all year round

5. Logging into Morrisby.com

Display PowerPoint Slide 4 which shows students how to find apprenticeship information in their Morrisby account, if they have one. Encourage those who are interested in apprenticeships to find out more following the lesson. This information is career specific, and includes suggestions based on their profile.

Note: students who don't have a Morrisby account can be encouraged to look at the Australian Apprenticeships website to find out more about apprenticeships and traineeships. Students should use <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/>

Time
Required

2
Min

Resources

PowerPoint Slide 4

Differentiation



Students may require extra support to understand the apprenticeship job description and related information on the Australian Apprenticeships website.

Extension activities



Students could choose one or two careers that interest them, then investigate if apprenticeships are a possible route to those careers. To do this login to their Morrisby account (if they have one) to access information about apprenticeships or use the apprenticeship search website again. Students with a Morrisby account can add this activity as a goal to their Morrisby Action Plan.

