



Career Girls: Teamwork

Lesson Topic

Importance of Teamwork

Lesson Objective

Develop understanding of what it means to be a good team member; build awareness of teamwork skills

Preparation

Preview the video (1 minute, 11 seconds) in advance of the lesson.

Warm-up Activity

1. Introduce the video topic: the importance of teamwork.
2. Invite students to share examples of teams they've been members of or are aware of—in sports, school, their community, and so on.
3. Based on your preview of the video, determine which words to pre-teach, focusing on those that will enhance comprehension as students view the video. Vocabulary to consider:

teamwork	communication	belittle/belittling
workplace	crux	resolve(d)
self-contributor	conflict(s)	perspective(s)

4. Reinforce understanding of key vocabulary with a quick game: List words from the video on chart paper or the board. Provide clues, one at a time, for one of the words (without identifying it). Have students identify the word as soon as they have enough information.

Example: words > thoughts > sounds > signs > expressions (communication).

View the Video: *Teamwork*

1. Explain that the video discusses the importance of teamwork in the workplace. Let students know that they can use what they learn in the video to improve their teamwork skills and prepare for future careers.
2. View the video with students. Encourage students to listen for words they reviewed in the Warm-Up Activity.
3. View the video again, this time having students listen for teamwork skills they can practice, such as listening, resolving conflicts, being considerate, and doing your part.

Video Follow-up

1. Ask: "What is something you learned about teamwork that you didn't know before?" "What can you add to our understanding of teamwork that wasn't in the video?"

2. Use questions to encourage deeper understanding. Remind students to refer back to the video in their responses. Sample questions:
 - Why are listening skills so important to teamwork?*
 - What is one thing to keep in mind when trying to resolve disagreements?*
 - How can understanding differences help a team be more successful?*
 - Why is it important for each person to do his or her part on a team?*

3. Revisit the last sentence in the video: "We all have to take our little slice of the pie and bring it together to make the project work." Ask students to think about a pie that has been cut into slices. (Share or draw a picture if possible.) Have students explain how members of a team are like the slices of pie.

Extension Activity

Discuss with students the idea that a team produces or achieves more than what individual team members can contribute on their own. Test this out with a simple activity:

1. Group students into teams of 4–5 students each. Working independently (not sharing with the team), have students list on paper as many careers as they can think of in one minute.
2. Follow-up by having students on each team combine their individual lists of careers into one team list, eliminating duplication.
3. Ask: *How many careers did you come up with on your own? How many careers did you come up with as a team?*
4. Bring teams together to combine their lists into one class list. Continue to eliminate duplication, then compare the class total with team totals.
5. Ask: *Do you think a good team can produce more than each team member can individually?* Encourage students to use what they learned in this activity to back up their responses.

Related Questions to Explore

- The video says, "Communication is the crux of teamwork." What is another way to say this?
- Think about working on a team—such as with a group project, a team sport, or the school play. Do you agree or disagree with the statement, "Differences are more valuable than similarities"? (Have students explain their thinking.)
- True or False? An important part of teamwork is having a leader who makes all of the decisions. (Have students explain their thinking.)
- What are some complex problems in our world today? (for example, hunger, poverty, climate change) How could teamwork lead to better solutions?
- How do the following qualities contribute to teamwork? (Share one at a time. Remind students there are no incorrect answers.)

responsible	patient	enthusiastic
organized	careful	polite
creative	calm	persuasive
dependable	outgoing	confident
- How can learning to work well on a team now help you get the job you want later?