

Invent a new job

Scouts come up with a job for their future self.

Section: All
Time: 30 minutes
Where: Home, Den, Camp

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

PLAN

Many of the jobs that people will be doing in 10-20 years time do not exist yet! This activity is an opportunity to get scouts thinking about how they want their future to look, and what part they might play in this. Your role is to give them some tools and pointers on how to imagine that future, and come up with the job opportunities that people will have.

DO

Set the scene; “When your parents were your age, their aspirations for the future may have included being a Nurse or a Fireman, but certainly not a Data Privacy Manager or a Solar Power Engineer. In your future, there is a good chance that the job you will work in has not been invented yet, so get on and invent it!” With the UN Sustainable Development Goals setting out a blueprint for how the world will look in the future, the scouts could use this as a guide to their future jobs. Have the scouts choose one or more of the 17 SDGs that appeal to them. Next, have them figure out the kind of skills and roles needed in this new world as envisioned in their chosen SDG(s). People will be needed to make, build and fix new things. People will have to monitor and manage ecosystems, protecting them and helping them to recover. Inventors will come up with new ways to generate energy, to transport people and goods, and engineers will need to make them work. Finally, let the scouts come up with a super-cool name for this new job. Draw their future self in their new job, showing any special clothing and tools or equipment, as well as the location where they will be working.

REVIEW

Give each scout the chance to explain their future job and how they came up with it. Prompt the scouts to think about each others’ ideas and expand on them. If you had the time, and felt like adding in a new aspect to the activity, challenge the scouts to figure out the salary for each job! You could give them a minimum and maximum salary, or give them a few salary bands to use. Maybe ask them to rank them in terms of “importance” or “value to society”, or leave it up to them to determine how they would like to compare these roles.



In a nutshell...

- Scouts consider what the world will be like in the future.
- They identify a job which they might do, which does not even exist at the moment.
- The scouts then bring their ideas together to build a shared picture of their future.



Follow-on

Using large sheets of card or paper, have the scouts draw a huge scene of the future, showing all of them doing their future jobs. Encourage them to draw the tasks, but also the outputs or outcomes; is there more biodiversity, cleaner oceans, cleaner power generation, more equality, less poverty and so on?



SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 8 calls for full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value. When scouts consider what work they might do, they can think about it in this context, which might better help them to view and build towards an equitable future.



Find out more!
 Visit - www.betterworld.ie
 Contact us - sustainability@scouts.ie
 Produced by the Scouting Ireland Sustainable Scouting Team