

PIZZA AND SKILLED TRADES?



THE JOURNEY OF A PIZZA

Help students rethink the value, variety, and reach of skilled trades by using something relatable... pizza! Discover the trades required to get a pizza from farm to table, and reinforce how skilled tradespeople are responsible for much of what surrounds us.



Grade:
10 | 11 | 12

Subjects:
Co-op
Career Studies

Curriculum Tie-In:

- Explore opportunities and acquire knowledge
- Learn about work trends and how it affects the work we do
- Reflect on pathways and transferable skills
- Critical-thinking



Materials:

- Pizza worksheets
- Way to show/project video with sound



Build a Dream 'Journey of a Pizza' Video

- OYAP Apprenticeship Pathways Poster

Timeline:

55 minutes (can be adjusted as needed.)

Ideas:

- Order pizza or make pizza*
- Eat cheese-strings or other toppings (ask your nutrition program for things like peppers)*
- Give out pizza candy (from dollar or bulk store)*
- Scratch & Sniff pizza stickers

**If using food, consider dietary needs like gluten-free or gelatin-free.*

Instructions ▶

1. If using an item like food, hand those out as students arrive.
2. Introduce the lesson and discuss how a popular food like pizza is just not possible without having skilled tradespeople.

Sample Introduction

"When you eat a pizza, think about how many trades went into making that pizza happen. A chef creates the menu, someone has to fix the farm equipment so ingredients can be harvested, supplies travel down a road that a construction crew built, a machinist makes parts for processing equipment, an electrician hooks up an oven.

How many trades does it take to get a pizza from farm to table?"

(00:05/00:05)

3. Give students time to brainstorm the steps (you can start without devices if you have already covered skilled trades, or offer devices to research trades in your province). Students can be in groups or work in pairs.

As a prompt, you can draw this on the board or ask students how they are starting to break down each step.



You could also add hints by using a chart like this:*

Industrial

- Die Designer
- General Machinist
- Mould Maker

Construction

- Brick & Stone Mason
- Powerline Technician
- Sprinkler & Fire Protection Installer

Motive Power

- Agricultural Equipment Technician
- Automotive Service Technician
- Truck & Coach Technician

Service

- Chef
- IT Network Technician
- Utility Arborist

*Note: The above chart references skilled trades in Ontario which has 144 trades divided between 4 sectors.

(00:10/00:15)

4. Ask everyone to share their number/guess and write them on the board.

5. Play the video.

(00:05/00:20)



6. Ask students:

1. After seeing that video, which group do you think got the closest number?
2. Would you like to change your answer?

(00:05/00:25)

7. Ask students to work on their worksheet (alone, in pairs, or in small groups). You can play the video again for them asking them to estimate the trades. Feel free to encourage devices at this point to rewatch the video and research skilled trades.

(00:15/00:40)

8. Discuss the results as a group.

1. How many skilled trades do you think there are now in the pizza journey? Was this different from your original guess?

Answer: There are over 70!

2. Did any of the careers surprise you or seem new to you? Which ones?

Some suggestions: Arborist, IT Network Technician, Tool & Die Maker

3. Look up some skilled trades in your province; would you add any to the pizza journey? Why?

4. a) Where would technology or automation be used along the pizza journey?

Some suggestions: Agri-food and processing, advanced manufacturing with robotics & automation, online ordering systems, inventory tracking, data analysis, electronic tools.

b) Where do you think technology might change some jobs completely?

Some suggestions: customer service, cashier, reception, drivers, manual assembly/general manufacturing.

Note: Question #4 is an excellent standalone topic for another class.

(00:15/00:55)

Instructional Tips

Teachers can:

- Demonstrate gratitude and respect for people in all occupations, specifically reinforcing the idea that every job is valuable, has dignity, and deserves respect
- Dispel myths and stereotypes students might have about skilled trades
- Encourage students to consult the youth apprenticeship website for their province and other resources which provide useful information regarding apprenticeship
- Direct students to where more information can be found in school or through the board (i.e. guidance office, youth apprenticeship coordinator)



Teacher Prompts

- Did this exercise prompt you to learn more about a certain trade? Which one most interests them and why?
- Have you ever pictured yourself in the trades? If not, why?
- How might cooperative education or other forms of experiential learning help you to discover more about these careers?
- What could you say to someone that has a negative perception of a career you want to explore?
- Does anyone have a family member who works in skilled trades? Can you share something about their chosen career?
- If you do not know anyone who works in a career you are curious about, what could you do to learn more about these careers?

Future

Whether used for a follow-up lesson, as homework, or for a special project, here are some suggestions on how to take this career exploration further.



- Explore/discuss technological advancements in industries such as manufacturing and the agri-food industry
- Review programs and supports available to students that help explore these pathways further (i.e. co-op, Specialist High Skills Major, dual credit, youth apprenticeship)
- Bring in guest speaker who works in skilled trades (especially former students)
- Using the 'Journey of a Pizza' as a guideline, pick another popular product (i.e. a car – have the class vote!) and repeat the process of breaking down the steps to determine how many skilled tradespeople it takes to deliver that product
- Explore 1 skilled trades career and try to discover what a typical day might look like. Feel free to do online research or interview someone in a trade. Using your research, pretend you are a recruiter for that industry, write a profile "selling" the career (Consider what the job pays, whether you work indoors or outdoors, etc.)

Resources

Build a Dream – Interviews with Tradespeople

Canadian Apprenticeship Forum – What is Apprenticeship?

Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

Ellis Chart A comparative chart of apprentice training programs across Canada

Questions? Feedback?

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THE JOURNEY OF A PIZZA

Student Worksheet



1 How many skilled trades do you think there are now in the pizza journey? Was this different from your original guess?

2 Did any of the careers surprise you or seem new to you? Which ones?

3 Look up some skilled trades in your province; would you add any to the pizza journey? Why?

4 Where would technology or automation be used along the pizza journey? Where do you think technology might change some jobs completely?

