

Think Construction Toolkit

Careers in construction lessons for students aged 14–19

Plan 4 – Student
Fantasy Schools

Year group session - 1 day+

Over **200 million people** work in **construction**.
Construction professionals are **in demand worldwide!**

Introduction:

Each construction project is unique.

- Using Post-it notes, write down **three words** you associate with **CONSTRUCTION**. Stick them to the wall placing similar words together
- Watch the video **Explore construction: Build an exciting future** [here](#)
- Watch the video **Why we love construction** [here](#)
- Study the **CIOB membership spectrum** [here](#)
- How many **different roles** did you identify?
- What did you see or hear to a) **support** and b) **challenge** your first idea about working in construction? Using Post-it notes, stick them to the wall next to the first set of words
- **Review the wall.** What conclusions could you draw from this?

Industry guest speaker OR Case study video [list [here](#)]

What can you find out about the following:

- What's involved in their job?
- What do they like about it?
- How did they get into it?

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Introduction

- Watch this **video on building skyscrapers** [here](#)
- How do they keep from falling over?
- Watch this **video of a building in use** [here](#)
- What is it made of?
- Why was this material used?

Introduction:

Each group will design a new secondary school.
The class will vote for the best one.

Task 1: Create!

- **Work in groups**
- **Draw any aspect of your idea** e.g. floor plan, exterior front or side view; **whatever gets your design across best**
- There are no design limits so **let your imagination run wild!**
- Write down **two things** you will say about your design to the class
- Identify **one person** to feed back

Prompts:

- What will the walls be made of?
- What will the roof look like?
- Where will students learn, exercise and eat?

Tips:

- What are its special features?
- Structure? Design? Materials?
- Why will students enjoy going there?

Task 1 - Feedback:

- Describe your design to the class
- How would it work **in reality?**
- What would be its a) strengths b) drawbacks?

Vote on the design you like best

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Task 2: Dreams to reality

Each group has **one theme** to consider for their design:

Logistics

How will you choose a site for your school?
How will you get access without disruption?

Sustainability

What environmentally friendly features will your building have?
How will they help?

Users

Who will use your school?
What will they need from the new building?

Community

How will your building benefit the community?
What will be different?

Identify **one person** to feed back

Notes or sketches may help you

Task 2 - Feedback:

Work in groups

- Feed back your considerations to the class
- In groups, visit each building design in turn and consider what further adaptations you would make
- Vote again on the design you like best