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| Geographical skills audit |

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| * Investigating what makes geographers stand out from the crowd |

**Set up Time:** 5 minutes (longer to source your own job adverts)

**Activity time:** 15 minutes (10 minutes activity, 5 minutes feed back)

**Aims of activity**  
To provide students with a clear understanding that those who study Geography develop not just general employability skills but also very specific Geographical skills that are in demand by employers- this means that geographers stand out from the crowd and are very employable.

**Key messages**  
Those who study Geography develop not just general employability skills but also very specific Geographical skills that are in demand by employers. Geographers enter a range of career sectors and are one of the most employable graduate groups.

**Instructions**During a careers session, highlight to students that employers look for unique skills and that Geography has a series of very specific skills that set them apart from those who don’t study it.

Using geography-related job descriptions (examples provided), get students to pick out the skills requested by employers that are unique for studying geography. Add these skills to the skills table provided.

**Materials Required**Skills table (both complete and incomplete provided)  
Job adverts (examples provided) – you could even ask students to source their own job adverts as homework and bring to the lesson.

**Adaptations**

Adaptation 1: Give students extra support, a bit more of a helping hand and have some of the table completed for them.

Adaptation 2: Give students the chance to think of their own skills adding them to the long list.

Adaptation 3: Focus on one specific sector of careers or area of geography – are there skills that are related directly to this sector? GIS is a good one to use here.

**Things to consider:**

Some students may find the idea of identifying specific geographical skills a challenge, and so the best way to rectify this is to give students a separate task looking through job descriptions and highlighting the skills they require, and then being able to transfer them over.