

Exploring jobs at the Met Office

- 1** Tell the group that they are going to look at a cartoon about people working for the Met Office, working together to solve a problem. They will get to know more about those roles and what people like about them
- 2** Once they have all reviewed the weather heroes cartoon, split the group into pairs and hand out one Career back story card (on pages 3 to 5) per pair and ask them to discuss:
 - What are the key responsibilities of their character?
 - What key skills are needed for their job? If needed, you can explain that a skill is the ability, coming from one's knowledge, practice or aptitude to do something well
 - What does their character like about their role?
- 3** In pairs, young people will now discuss their own dream jobs and what they would like these to include. They should think about:
 - What kind of environment would they like to work in? I.e. an office, outside, a hospital, a school?



20 minutes



Groupwork



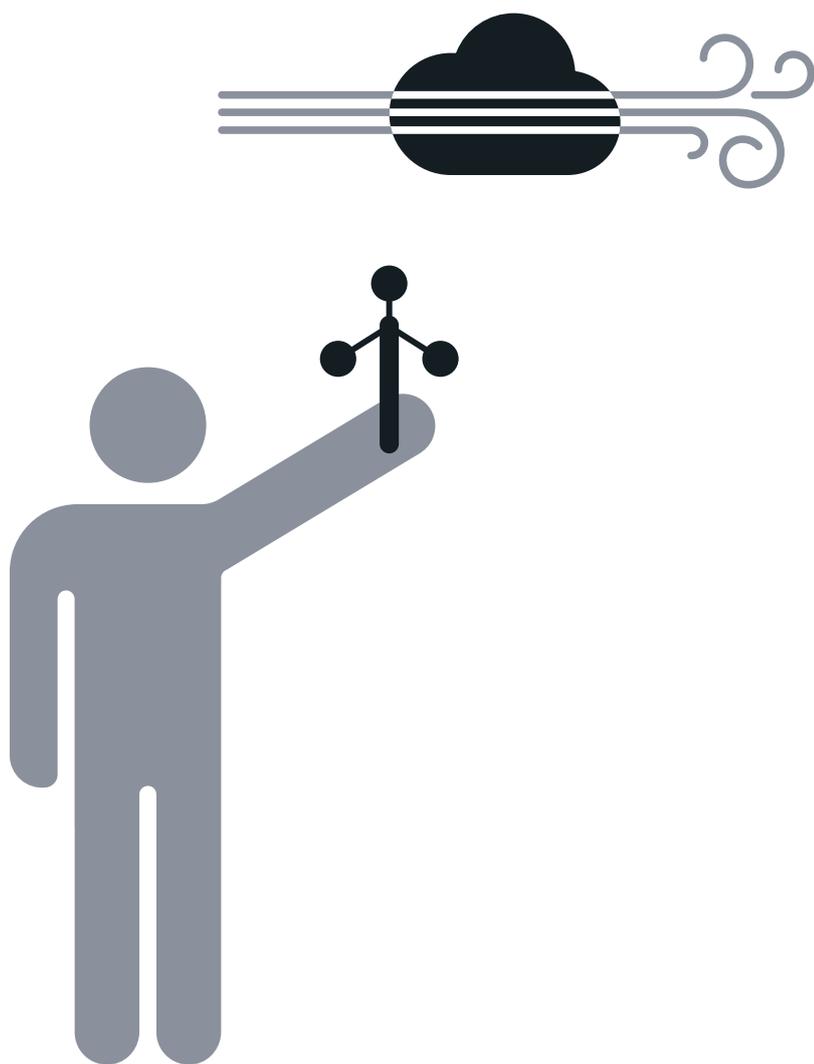
Careers back story cards



Weather heroes cartoon

- Would they prefer to stay in one location, in their hometown or would they like to travel for their job or move to a new place?
- What would they like to do in their dream job? I.e. helping people, protecting the environment, meeting a lot of people, working in a team, helping other people to learn

4 Ask for a few volunteers to share their thoughts and what they would like to do in their dream job



Career backstory cards

Sophie Field Services Engineer

What does a day in your job look like?

My day can vary a lot depending on whether I'm working in the field (that means somewhere away from the office) or in the office. In the office, I'm usually building and testing weather observation systems or preparing equipment for installations. When I'm out in the field, most of the time I'm installing or fixing new equipment to make sure everything is working as it should to get important information back to HQ.

What skills are needed for your job?

You definitely need to be a good team player and problem solver. Combining creativity with technical know-how can be a big bonus too – it really helps if you can look at a challenge and think creatively about potential solutions.

What do you love most about your job?

Getting to work with so many different teams, and travel to new, interesting places has always been a great part of the job. Every day is different! It's also been really helpful to train and earn at the same time – I've always felt really supported to keep gaining new skills and experiences.



Career backstory cards

Jaylin Manager in Upper Air Observations

What does a day in your job look like?

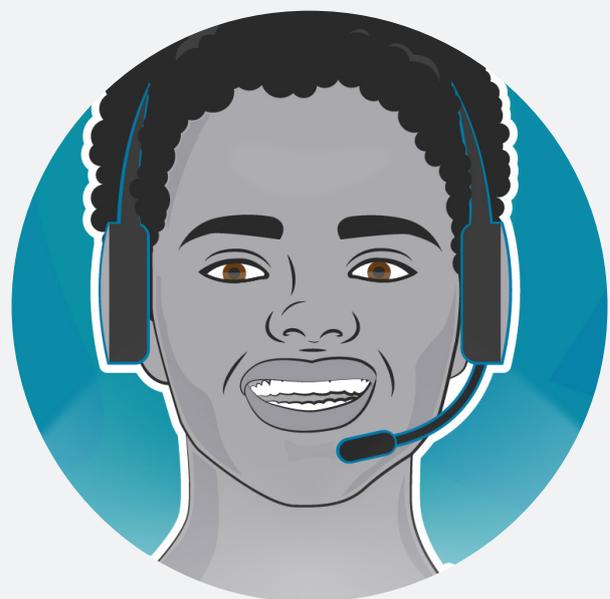
I look after everything to do with running the weather radars and making sure they work. My day usually starts with checking each radar; we have monitoring software which allows me to quickly see how they're performing. If something isn't right, it's my job to make sure the right people are informed and the right steps are put in place so that they can fix it as quickly as possible. I also do planned maintenance visits – the radars need regular upkeep, and to agree the schedule, I have to speak to field service engineering teams across the UK.

What skills are needed for your job?

For my job, time management, organisation, being able to plan ahead and work well with others are all really important. It can be quite fast paced and you need to keep a clear head, listen carefully and feel confident in taking the lead. It all comes with practice though – if you love your job, these things will come in time!

What do you love most about your job?

One of things I love most about my job is getting to travel. Twice a year I get to go and meet with people doing my job in other parts of Europe – my last trip was to Iceland. Not only were the workshops really interesting, I got to see the northern lights!



Career backstory cards

Aaron Radar Software Engineer

What does a day in your job look like?

My day mostly involves using programming and writing code to improve the software that runs at the weather radar sites. This software controls everything the radar does – for example, how fast the dish spins, what frequency it transmits at for how long... I have to be careful, because even quite a small bug in the software could shut the radar network down if it isn't spotted in time!

What skills are needed for your job?

You definitely need to be a good problem solver, and it's really important to develop a calm, methodical approach to looking at puzzles and thinking through solutions. Being able to listen and communicate with other teams is really key as well.

What do you love most about your job?

It's always rewarding to see how software I've written makes the radar do something new and useful. It's also a good feeling to know that the work I do is helping keep people safe, by helping the radars to function and get important information to the right people. Going up to the radars is fun, too – it's nice to get a change of scene and you get great views because they're all located in towers on top of hills. It's pretty epic!

