

Explore Careers as an Entrepreneur: Classroom Lesson Plan

Lesson Topic:

Entrepreneurs Solve Problems

Lesson Objective:

Students will be able to identify the types of problems that inspire entrepreneurs.

Materials:

- Writing utensils
- Whiteboard or overhead
- Copies of **Entrepreneurs Solve Problems**, one per student
- Projector or other method to watch the movie

Advanced Preparation:

- Preview the [video](#) before sharing it with your students [3:06].
- Make copies of **Entrepreneurs Solve Problems** worksheet, enough for one per student.

Warm-up Activity:

1. Ask students to turn and talk to a partner about what they know about the word “entrepreneur”.
2. After a minute of discussion, bring the class back together and ask students to share their ideas.

3. Work together to come to a class definition of the term entrepreneur (e.g., *"A person who creates a new business to help solve a problem and is often seen as an innovator."*) Ensure this definition is written on the whiteboard, overhead, or chart paper for reference later in the lesson.
4. Pass out copies of **Entrepreneurs Solve Problems** worksheets.

View the Video: "Explore Careers as an Entrepreneur"

1. Tell students they will be watching the video titled, "Explore Careers as an Entrepreneur" to learn about the types of businesses entrepreneurs create to solve problems.
2. Explain that the video presents role models describing entrepreneurship and the businesses that they have developed.
3. View the video together and have students listen for the role models to discuss their businesses.
4. While viewing, direct students to complete the second column of the table on the **Entrepreneurs Solve Problems** worksheet.
5. View the video again; this time, have students complete the third column on the **Entrepreneurs Solve Problems** worksheet.
6. As needed, the video can be viewed a third time for students to check their work or allow students that need some additional time to complete their worksheet.

Video Follow-up:

1. Ask students to offer their questions, comments, reactions, and responses to the video.
2. Direct students to turn and talk with a partner about the problems that they believe each business was created to solve. Then bring the class together to discuss their thoughts.



3. Guide students to understand that each of these role models noticed a problem in their community or the world. Then, they created their business to address this problem.
4. Ask, "Have you noticed any problems in our school or community?" Allow students to briefly discuss problems they have noticed.
5. Explain that it is these types of problems that inspire entrepreneurs to create their businesses.
6. End by telling students that anyone can become an entrepreneur. Encourage students to look for problems in their community and think about how they could solve them.



Extension Activities:

1. Direct students to list problems they notice in their community and brainstorm possible entrepreneurial solutions.
2. Encourage students to do additional research on entrepreneurs and their career paths. Note that entrepreneurs often don't have a straightforward career path!
3. Use the "Related Questions to Explore" as discussion springboards or writing prompts to help students further explore entrepreneurship.

Related Questions to Explore:

- Entrepreneurs need to be able to solve problems creatively. What other skills or characteristics do you think it takes to be a successful entrepreneur? Why do you think that?
- One role model said that she wanted to become an entrepreneur to be her own boss. Is that something you would want to have in a career? Why or why not?
- Entrepreneurs often follow their passions. What might happen if an entrepreneur tried to create a business focused on something they weren't passionate about?
- Being an entrepreneur takes a lot of work! And not all businesses are successful. Knowing this, why do you think people choose to become entrepreneurs?



Entrepreneurs Solve Problems

Watch the video "Entrepreneurs". As each role model talks about her company, describe it briefly in the "Company" column. Then, take a few minutes to think about what problem each company solves and write your ideas in the "What Problem Does It Solve?" column.

Entrepreneur's Name	Company	What Problem Does It Solve?
Tish Scolnik		
Swathi Kiran		
Marti Hoffer		
Asia Denson		
Natalie Cosby		
Mallory Brown		



Ideas for Future Lessons/Activities Related to Entrepreneurs:

1. What's the Problem? Entrepreneurs and Their Creative Solutions
2. What Does It Take to Be an Entrepreneur? Skills, Qualities, and Characteristics
3. Literature-Based Learning: Autobiographies and Memoirs of Famous Female Entrepreneurs
4. Math Connection: Planning a Product Launch
5. How to Think Outside the Box: Science-backed Brainstorming Strategies
6. Roadmap to Entrepreneurial Success: From Seeing a Problem to Implementing a Solution
7. Social Entrepreneurs to Small Business Startups: Exploring the Types of Entrepreneurs