

Smile

We count

Activity



Smile We count

Making a difference with
our unique skills and talents

Having identified a need in your community you really care about, this activity will help you maximise the difference you can make by thinking about where your skills can meet that need.

You have far more skills than you think, gained from all kinds of working, learning, playing and giving experiences and opportunities you have been involved in throughout your life to this point. Some of these skills you will love and be really good at and it's by using those particular skills you'll make the greatest difference. When you then go on to combine them with other people's skills, together an even bigger, longer lasting difference is made.

We count

To identify the skills you both love using and are good at, imagine you are at a party. As you walk around, you are greeted by 10 different groups of people each of whom love using a particular set of skills. You may feel a little bit awkward having just come in by yourself so you decide to head over to the group of people you feel most at home with as, they too use the skills you really love using and you feel you will have most in common with them. After a little while this group of people move on and you look around the room and think again.... which is the next group you would have the most in common with as these too are skills you love. Then finally, you have a chance to meet your third favourite group. Who would they be?

Have a look at your top three groups and tick the skills you see as your real strengths in the lists summarised in Me and My Skills. You can do all sorts of things with these skills and you may wish to talk more about them with your friends and colleagues, comparing and discussing how together you may be able to combine your skills to make that greater difference.



The Musicians

People who like playing, composing or simply being around music



The Actives

People who enjoy anything to do with sport and leisure



The Handy-andies

People who enjoy using their hands, working with objects or tools, making, preparing and fixing things



The Creatives

People who love arts, words, language, being creative, innovating and using their imagination



The Thinkers

People who like to reflect, think, philosophise and make plans about themselves and others



The Communicators

People who love relating to others including selling, motivating, educating, teaching, and negotiating



The Suits

People who love being in the world of commerce and business



The Carers

People who like to help, cure or support others



The Greenies

People who love nature, animals, the outdoors and/or caring for the environment



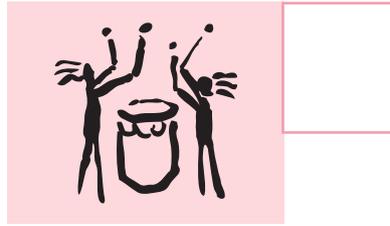
The Mathematicians

People who love numbers, science and logic

We are all good at different things. We can celebrate this and look for opportunities to share these with others who may have different skills to us.

Me and my skills...

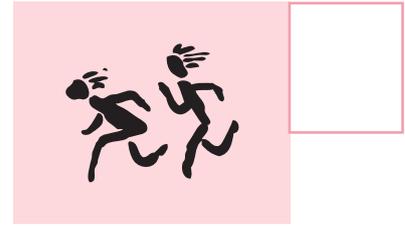
Tick the skills you feel you love and are good at, starting with your favourite three groups.



The Musicians

People who like playing, composing or simply being around music

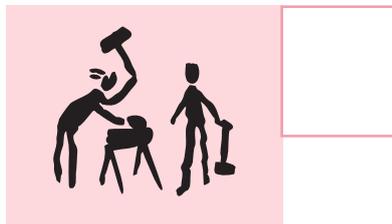
- Performing
- Collaborating
- Practicing
- Recording
- Producing
- Improvising
- Orchestrating
- Composing
- Singing
- Entertaining



The Actives

People who enjoy anything to do with sport and leisure

- Exercising
- Exploring
- Well-being
- Sporting
- Adventuring
- Playing
- Dancing
- Organising
- Engaging
- Travelling



The Handy-Andies

People who enjoy using their hands, working with objects or tools, making, preparing and fixing things

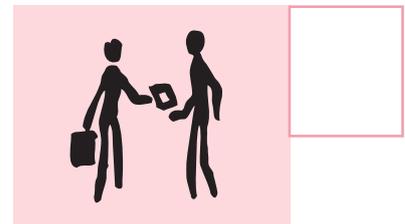
- Building
- Repairing
- Making
- Crafting
- Administrating
- Cooking
- Cleaning
- Painting
- Tending
- Maintaining



The Creatives

People who love arts, words, language, being creative, innovating and using their imagination

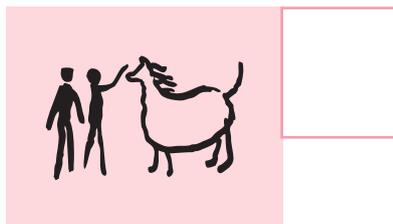
- Inventing
- Creating
- Imagining
- Designing
- Changing
- Developing
- Connecting
- Drawing
- Visioning
- Writing



The Suits

People who love being in the world of commerce and business

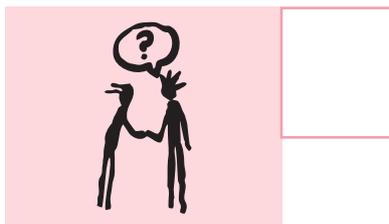
- Selling
- Persuading
- Fundraising
- Marketing
- Enterprising
- Leading
- Initiating
- Championing
- Promoting
- Risk-taking



The Greenies

People who love nature, animals, the outdoors and/or caring for the environment

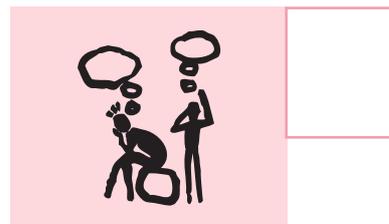
- Protecting
- Preserving
- Salvaging
- Planting
- Conserving
- Growing
- Regenerating
- Re-cycling
- Tidying
- Saving



The Communicators

People who love relating to others including selling, motivating, educating, teaching, and negotiating

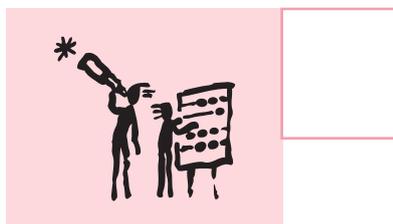
- Communicating
- Team working
- Teaching
- Presenting
- Listening
- Motivating
- Inspiring
- Managing
- Liaising
- Educating



The Thinkers

People who like to reflect, think, philosophise and make plans about themselves and others

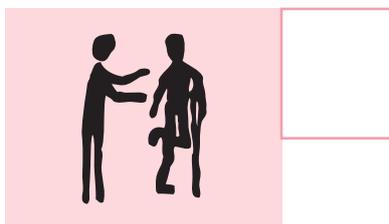
- Reflecting
- Thinking
- Planning
- Learning
- Reviewing
- Researching
- Processing
- Reading
- Philosophising
- Observing



The Mathematicians

People who love numbers, science and logic

- Accounting
- Evaluating
- Solving
- Analysing
- Forecasting
- Appraising
- Budgeting
- Financing
- Computing
- Systematising



The Carers

People who like to help, cure or support others

- Helping
- Caring
- Sharing
- Supporting
- Understanding
- Mentoring
- Empowering
- Befriending
- Loving
- Assisting

To be employed is to be at risk. To be employable is to be secure. Highlight additional skills you need to develop further to stay employable in the future.

We find our
purpose when
we use the skills
we love, where
the world needs
them most.

Richard N Bolles

Author of 'What Colour is your Parachute'.