

level up!

Skilled Trades Fairs

Post-Event Teacher Package

Materials from 2023 Level Up! events
to support student visits to other
skilled trades related events

LEVEL UP

Level Up! Post-Event Teacher Materials

The following package includes materials from the 2023 Level Up! Skilled Trades Career Fairs that took place from September to November 2023.

While Level Up! is complete for 2023, these materials can be useful for students attending other skilled trades related events.

Thank you for supporting your students' exploration in the skilled trades!

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About Level Up!

Level Up! was a series of Ontario-wide, multi-day career fair events that brought together the best in skilled trades professionals across industry organizations, post-secondary institutions, businesses, associations and more. This year, we were back and bigger than ever with more events in more locations across the province, with events scheduled from September to November 2023.

Why?

The Level Up! Career Fairs were designed to offer students a hands-on, engaging experience with the goal of:

- Highlighting the future potential of skilled trade industries
- Helping all youth see themselves in the skilled trades
- Clarifying the pathways into and beyond the skilled trades

Who Attended the Fairs?

Our goal was to inspire students grades 7 to 12 to take their first step towards a career in industries that are constantly

innovating, on the cutting edge of emerging technologies, and making a critical difference in people's lives. We were looking to connect with a diverse group of young people who are hard-working, hands-on, passionate, and committed to positively impacting society. We know students might not realize a career in the skilled trades is right for them. This was a chance to help students explore the possibilities!

Teacher Involvement

The following package includes some of the materials prepared to help teachers get involved with the 2023 Level Up! Fairs and may be helpful in preparing students for other skilled trades related events.

If you have any questions about Level Up!, you can reach out to levelup@ontario.ca or visit LevelUpOntario.ca.

Discussing the Skilled Trades with Your Students

Who should consider the skilled trades?

- The skilled trades are an ideal career option for students who are hard-working, hands-on, passionate, and committed to positively impacting society.
- In Ontario, there are more than 140 professions within the skilled trades, each serving an important part of our province's economy and making a tangible difference in people's lives. From STEM to service, there is something for everyone.

Why consider the skilled trades?

- Skilled trades professionals are in high demand in Ontario, with well-paid, stable, and flexible career opportunities.
- Skilled trades professionals play a critical role in our society, performing diverse, innovative, and future-facing jobs across numerous sectors that we rely on every day.

How to get started in the trades

- Students should make sure their current course load provides them with the foundational skills required to pursue a career within the skilled trades.
- Students and parents are encouraged to speak to a teacher or guidance counsellor about apprenticeship opportunities, as well as to understand pathways, next steps and key resources available to young Ontarians.
- Visit [LevelUpOntario.ca](https://www.levelupontario.ca) today for tools, resources and more information about unlocking a future in the skilled trades.

Student Activity & Engagement

Questions to support students

To help students make the most of their time at Level Up!, we provided a few starter questions, to support students' comfort in engaging with exhibitors. These are included in the printable document on the next page which may be helpful in guiding interactions at any other future skilled trades related events.

Activity to support students

To encourage students' active participation at the fair, we created a document students could fill in. This activity may be of use as you look to create your own for similar events.

Questions to Ask Exhibitors

Learn more about the skilled trades by asking exhibitors the following questions. Capture their responses below:

How did you get started in the skilled trades?

Why did you choose this trade?

Where did you apprentice? What was the experience like?

What's your favourite part of working in the skilled trades?

What does the future of your industry look like?

Activity

Please answer the following questions:

What is one thing you learned about each of the four sectors?

Construction:

Industrial:

Motive Power:

Service:

Which exhibit did you enjoy the most and why?

What were your thoughts about the skilled trades before visiting the fair? How have they changed since?

Before the fair:

After the fair:



2023 Level Up! Skilled Trades Fair Run of Show (for reference)

Here's an overview of the overall experience at the 2023 Level Up! Skilled Trades Fairs:

- **Arrival:** An event team member greeted teachers and students upon arrival.* The event team member delivered a welcome address. Teachers were encouraged to let the students know departure time, and event team members shared more details about where students should assemble for departure.
- **Welcome video:** Following the welcome address, students made their way into the venue to watch a short welcome video which shared a quick overview of the skilled trades and what to expect during their visit.
- **Interacting with exhibitors:** From there, students were able to navigate through the fair and interact with exhibitors across the four skilled trades sectors – motive power, service, construction and industrial.
- **Departure:** At the departure time, event staff helped see students back on to the bus safely.

**Note: It was recommended that teachers allot 1.5 hours for the fair.*

Questions?

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact LevelUp@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your support in encouraging students to explore the skilled trades.