

Skills & Wills Teacher Toolkit

This toolkit is designed to help educators guide students in identifying their unique strengths (skills) and inner motivations (wills). These tools can help spark career exploration, improve self-awareness, and build purpose-driven goals—while connecting directly to financial literacy outcomes.

What is the Skills & Wills Model?

Skills are what you're naturally good at or have learned over time. Wills are what energize and inspire you—your passions, curiosities, or values. When students learn to connect their skills and wills, they can uncover meaningful career pathways that lead to long-term fulfillment, not just financial success.

Classroom Tools & Activities

1. Career Journals

Weekly reflection prompts to help students identify their values, skills, and experiences that bring them satisfaction. This encourages long-term self-awareness and helps students connect personal growth with professional direction.

2. Skills Inventory Game

Create a bingo or checklist of soft and hard skills. Let students identify which ones they already use or want to develop. Have them pair up to discuss how those skills can be used in future jobs or in their personal lives.

3. Passion Interviews

Students interview peers or family members about what drives them in their careers, what skills they use daily, and how they found their path. These interviews promote connection and curiosity while showing real-life application of the Skills & Wills framework.

4. YouScience & O*NET Tools

Use online tools to guide deeper career discovery:

- YouScience offers assessments aligned with student aptitudes and interests. It creates personalized reports that help map career options.
- O*NET (a U.S. Dept. of Labor site) allows students to explore careers by interest, salary range, skill set, and more.

Explore Careers with O*NET

Scan the QR code below to access O*NET Online:



<https://www.onetonline.org/>

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