

Possible Futures



Facilitator Guide: How to Prepare for This Lesson



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Lesson 1—What is Communication?

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About This Facilitator Guide

This facilitator guide provides the details to help you enable students to complete the lesson on What Is Communication? —Building Meaning Together.

Instructions for using Flipgrid can be found in this guide.

While this lesson is designed for online learning, you will find information in this guide about In-Person Learning Adaptations to help you facilitate your students who may be completing this lesson in the classroom instead of online. Callouts will provide guidance on how to adapt various activities for in-person learning.

Before You Get Started

Before you get started with this lesson, please be sure to:

- Read through the facilitator guide.
- Download SCORM. (You will only need to add SCORM once. After that, you will be set to use SCORM for any remaining lessons.)
- Review the Rise lesson.
- Prepare any resources needed for the lesson.
- Set up Flipgrid.

Flipgrid Instructions—Setting Up Flipgrid

Both educators and students will need to set up Flipgrid for use.

Educator Step-by-Step Guide

Set up your free educator account at [Flipgrid.com](https://flipgrid.com) and create a **Topic** for the class. Please copy and paste the heading from the facilitator guide that pairs with the Flipgrid so that the topic aligns with student expectations. A Topic is a discussion prompt for students. Students respond to the Topic with a short video using our fun, social-media-style camera. Students can watch and comment on videos from peers, with the educator in complete control.

1. Create a Topic

Topics start the conversation in Flipgrid. Just write a prompt and include anything for students to review before responding, such as videos and links.

When you create a new Topic or Group, a Join Code is automatically created for it. To share the Join Code to your Topic or Group, log in to your educator account and select the blue Share button to access your Join Link and Code, as well as other ways to share your discussion.



The Join Code also creates a Link. Copy and paste the link in emails, texts, social media, Google Classroom, or other websites to invite your students to join! You can download/print QR codes for students to scan on the Flipgrid app. The Flipgrid app and flipgrid.com offer a QR scanner on the homepage.

The student receives the Join Code in the form of a link, a code, a QR code, or a guest username and password. The student can then enter a student username, or a password.

2. Set Access and Share

After creating the Topic, choose how students will access it. If they have email addresses, add the domain (everything after the @ symbol in their email address). If students do not have email addresses, create usernames for each student. Invite families and guests by adding a guest password.

Share the Topic by using one of the Share buttons or copy and paste the unique Join Code wherever you connect with your community.

3. [Students Respond](#)

After entering the Join Code, students gain access by logging in via email or username.

Students can share their voices by recording a short video with Flipgrid's fun, simple, and powerful camera. It's packed with everything they need to tell their story, including text, emoji, inking, boards, screen recording, and the ability to upload clips!

References:

[Educator Step-by-Step Guide](#)

[Educators: A Teacher's Guide to Flipgrid \[YouTube\]](#)

[Educator Guide to Flipgrid](#)

Student Step-by-Step Guide

A student can create a video to submit to the educator in a few easy steps!

1. Locate the Join Information From Your Educator

Your educator would have given you one of these ways to join the discussion:

- A Join Code (e.g., FGrid3567, a591dc5d) or a QR code
- A Join Link (e.g., <https://flipgrid.com/FGrid3567>, <https://flipgrid.com/a591dc5d>)
- If you don't have a school-provided email, then a unique username or guest password
- Flipgrid works on most web browsers and mobile devices.
- Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome is recommended for the best web experience. For easy access to Flipgrid, download the Flipgrid extension. On mobile devices, download the free Flipgrid app for iOS and Android devices.

2. Join the Discussion

Get the educator's discussion by using the link or code provided by your educator in Step 1.

- If you have a Join Link, select that link.
- If you have a Join Code,
 - Go to your web browser and enter <https://flipgrid.com>. You'll see an area to enter a Join Code. Type the Join Code and press Enter on your keyboard.
 - On a mobile app, enter the code.
- If you have a QR code, scan the QR code with your device camera or the Flipgrid mobile app.

You'll see a prompt to log in. Enter a student username or a password. If your student username or password is not working, be sure to double-check the case and space sensitivity.

Tip: If you're prompted to log in, choose Google if your school uses Google Classroom, Docs, and Drive. Choose Microsoft if your school uses Word, OneDrive, or Microsoft Teams.

3. Record and Submit

Once you've joined, you'll see your educator's Topic, or discussion prompt. Follow the instructions, and when you're ready to record, select the red Record a Response button or the Flipgrid logo for the camera to start.

When you're in the Flipgrid camera, you can record a video in these three easy steps:

- Tap to record: Tap the Record button on the bottom to start. Add fun stickers, filters, text, and more. Tap the arrow on the bottom-right to advance.



Review your video: Trim, split, rearrange, or add more. Tap the arrow on the bottom-right to advance.



Submit your video: Edit your cover image and name, add a title, or attach a link. Then submit!

The Flipgrid camera offers a lot of fun and creative ways for you to share your ideas and voice! [Check out all the camera features here](#). Learn [how to import a custom video](#) or [how to include a screen recording](#).

References:

[Getting Started: Students](#)

[Getting Started with Flipgrid - Students \[YouTube\]](#)

Using Editable PDFs

Most lessons include the use of an editable PDF for students to capture responses to questions and other activities.

Guiding language is included in the lesson to help students access and use the editable PDFs where they appear.

For students who will be using Chromebooks, students will need to use the Print to PDF function to save their editable PDFs to their device. Here's how to do this:

- 1) Open the editable PDF and select CTRL + P.
- 2) Open the file destination where the file will be saved to.
- 3) Select Save as PDF.
- 4) Select Print. Your document is now "printed" as a PDF file, which will save your work.

PDFs cannot be submitted via the Rise activities. If you plan to collect these documents for career planning portfolios or grading, you will need to coordinate that with your students.

To view a video on using Flipgrid and editable PDFs in the lessons, select [this link](#).

Ask an Expert Interviews (Optional)

You may choose to include an "Ask an Expert Interview" in this lesson.

An interview provides an opportunity for students to talk with and ask questions to experts who work in various professions to learn about their career journeys, current job roles and responsibilities, and glean valuable insights.

Additionally, interviews also provide the following benefits:

- Real-world information about careers
- An awareness of the workplace habits and interpersonal skills needed to succeed in any job

- Further encouragement to go to college or post-secondary training, apprenticeship, and so forth and get ready for the career of their choice
- An understanding of the fact that each person's career journey is unique and that most people encounter obstacles and challenges that they must overcome to reach their goals

When selecting experts to participate in the small group interviews, look for “down-to-earth” people who you think are good speakers and who would be comfortable talking to young students, aged 12 to 14 years. An ideal ratio is one expert per every five students.

There are two options that can be used if you choose to use an Ask an Expert Interview:

- Schedule a Zoom/Skype call with an expert in the field.
- Find an existing YouTube video of an expert to share with students.

In-Person Learning Adaptation: For in-person learning, project/share the Zoom/Skype call with an expert with your class. YouTube videos may also be projected/shared in-person. You can consider facilitating further discussions on the key takeaways from the session and/or a specific topic discussed in the session.

Review the following resource for additional information:

[Career and College Exploration Experiences: Planning for Success](#)

How to Implement This Unit

For students to get the most value from this unit, please plan on implementing all lessons in this unit, in sequential order.

When it may not be possible to implement the entire unit, we recommend implementing the following lessons to support optimum student learning based on time available:

- Best practice: Students take all 12 lessons in order.
- Mini-unit option: Instructors select one lesson from each section—Communication (Lessons 1–4), Collaboration (Lessons 5–8), Growth Mindset (Lessons 9–11), and Self-Regulation (Lesson 12).
- Stand-alone lessons: All 12 lessons could stand alone.
- Pairs: Lessons 1 and 2, Lessons 2 and 5, Lessons 9 and 10, and Lessons 11 and 12.
- Trios: Lessons 1–3, Lessons 10–12, and Lessons 6–8.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes

The program learning outcomes for Possible Futures 2.0 are:

- A. Gain awareness of and exposure to a wide array of careers.
- B. Increase self-awareness and begin to form their potential occupational identity.
- C. Develop employability skills.
- D. Develop foundational technical skills as appropriate.
- E. Be positioned to make more informed educational choices.
- F. Transition to high school with an actionable plan for next steps.

The curriculum learning outcome for the Skills for Success curriculum is as follows:

- a. Develop the transferable social, emotional, and employability skills vital for academic and career success.

Communication:

- 1. Students develop communication skills that will be essential to their future success in learning- and work-based environments such as verbal and nonverbal communication, listening strategies, conflict management, and self-advocacy.

Collaboration:

- 2. Students develop collaboration skills in authentic contexts; learning about actions that add or subtract from collaboration; the importance of trust; using technology to collaborate; and how to identify shared goals and criteria for success with peers.

Growth Mindset:

- 3. Students learn about failure and “failing forward,” luck versus opportunity, and fixed versus growth mindsets. Students also practice justifying their claims with evidence, identify the self-talk they use in moments of personal frustration, and develop the ability to recognize mistakes as useful tools for learning.

Self-Regulation:

- 4. Students learn about thinking fast and slow, luck versus hard work, and examine and reflect on the role of effort and support in attaining their goals.

The Arizona Career Literacy Standards for grades 5 through 8 can be found at [this link](#).

This lesson’s learning outcomes align with the program learning outcomes (PLOs), curriculum learning outcomes (CLOs), and Arizona Career Literacy Standards (CLSs) as follows:

CLOs	Lesson Learning Outcomes	PLOs	CLSs
1	Demonstrate understanding of the 4 categories of communication.	B, C	1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 7.0
1	Identify the 7 components of communication and provide examples of each.	B, C	1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 7.0

1	Talk about social construction using the example of love.	B	1.0, 2.0, 4.0, 7.0
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Tracking Completion of Lessons

If you are using SCORM Cloud or Canvas with the lessons in this unit, completion tracking options are available. If you are not using either platform, please determine if and/or how you plan to track completion of lessons by students.

Lesson 1 Components

Guiding Question

The guiding question is intended to provide a focal point for each lesson. This lesson's guiding question is as follows:

- Why is understanding communication important?

Unit Overview

In this lesson, students will participate in a series of activities that promote effective communication. They will begin by answering the question, "What is communication?" and interact with how messages transfer between individuals. They will then learn the components that make up the communication process and create a model. Then they will build on their understanding of communication by viewing a drawing game entitled "Exquisite Corpse," which models co-constructive communication. Next, they will build upon their knowledge of co-construction by creating a presentation of how love is communicated. This lesson concludes with reflecting upon their communication skills and how they would like to develop, improve, and apply these skills in the future.

Vocabulary in This Lesson—Flip Card Activity

Students should use the flip card activity to familiarize themselves with key vocabulary terms and definitions for this lesson.

- **Source:** Someone or something that causes or provides what is wanted or needed.
- **Encoding:** To put a message into the form of a code so that it can be understood.
- **Channel:** A way of expressing your ideas, feelings, and so forth to other people.
- **Decoding:** To find or understand the true or hidden meaning of something.
- **Receiver:** To experience or accept something that is sent.
- **Feedback:** Helpful information or criticism that is given to someone to say what can be done to improve a performance or product.
- **Context:** The words that are used with a certain word or phrase and that help to explain its meaning.
- **Language:** The system of words or signs that people use to express thoughts and feelings to each other.
- **Communication:** The act or process of using words, sounds, signs, or behaviors to express or exchange information or to express ideas, thoughts, or feelings to someone else.
- **Sender:** To cause something to go from one place or person to another.
- **Nuance:** A very small difference in tone or meaning.
- **Tactile:** Relating to the sense of touch.
- **Olfactory:** Relating to the sense of smell.
- **Auditory:** Relating to hearing or the ears.
- **Social Construction:** The meaning placed on an object or event by a society.

Learning Targets

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the four categories of communication.
- Identify the seven components of communication and provide examples of each.
- Talk about social construction using the example of love.

Categories of Communication—Sorting Activity

This is a sorting activity. Students are presented with a list of terms that can be dragged and dropped into their related communication categories.

- Visual
- Auditory
- Tactile
- Olfactory

In-Person Learning Adaptation: For in-person learning, the facilitator may discuss any queries or observations about the concepts.

Further discussions may be facilitated on relevant topics discussed during the session.

The Communication Process

In this section, students will learn about the individual components of the communication process. They will see an image of two children with several hotspots on it. The students will need to select each hotspot to reveal more information. They will see the following instructions in Rise:

“Select each hotspot below to better understand the components in the process.”

In-Person Learning Adaptation: For in-person learning, the facilitator can project the image with hotspots in class and discuss various components in the communication process.

Remember This—Flip Card Activity

Students should use the flip card activity to familiarize themselves with examples of communication barriers.

- Noise: Imagine trying to have a conversation when someone is talking loudly in the next room or in the school lunchroom when it's really noisy. Because there are a lot of other people talking, it might be difficult for you to hear what someone else is saying. Noise is any type of disruption that interferes with the transmission or interpretation of information from the sender to the receiver.
- Meaning: It's been said that humans do not process information. Rather, we process the meaning, and making meaning in communication requires all the components of communication to work well together. Meaning can easily be lost because of noise at any point from the original sender through to the receiver or because of lack of feedback or misunderstandings of context when we do not use our words appropriately and consider our audience.

Process and Model

In this section, the students will record key words and phrases that will help them remember the individual components of the communication process. They will list modeling of each of these communication components that are meaningful. The students will record their responses in **The Communication Process** section of this lesson's editable PDF.

Exquisite Communication—Video Block

In this section, the students will watch a [video](#) called “Exquisite Corpse,” where a team co-creates an interesting creature.

In-Person Learning Adaptation: For in-person learning, the facilitator can share the video via a projector or a Smart Board and ask students to discuss any queries or observations on the video.

Flipgrid Share Out—What Is Love?

In this section, students will use Flipgrid to answer the following questions:

- How does the communication process relate to how you communicate love?
- Are there ways that you encode love when communicating to others?

Presentation tip: Tell students that they can first write down what they plan to say before they turn on Flipgrid.

Remind students to **include your class hashtag in the title of the post.**

Thinking About Your Future

Students will see the following statement in Rise: “You’ve been exploring what it takes to effectively communicate. You will spend your entire life communicating with other humans, but

most of the time, communication skills are not taught. You will study many things in your life but might not ever learn communication basics—despite estimates that show we spend 80 percent of our time at work communicating.

You will spend the next few years of high school communicating with friends, parents, and new people. Why not sharpen your skills? In this module on communication, you learned principles, processes, models, and skills that promote healthy communication. You also learned to better express yourself, listen in different ways, advocate for yourself, problem solve, and navigate conflict.”

Before moving on to the next lesson, think about how you might respond to these questions:

- What is a communication problem or challenge that you have personally experienced?
- What do you think created the “noise” in your problem or challenge?
- How do you think you could have resolved this communication problem or challenge?
- How could you avoid the same problem or challenge in the future?

Career Pathways

In this section, students will see the following in Rise: “It’s never too soon to start exploring future career options!”

Students can access the resources at this link: [Pipeline AZ Career Exploration](#).

Lesson Completion

At the end of the lesson, students will see the following message in Rise:

“In future lessons, you will learn more about communication. Topics will include the importance of listening, barriers and bridges, and skills that pay the bills.”