

Welcome to Future You



Future You is an initiative from the Australian Government's Women in STEM Ambassador, funded and supported by the Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

Future You addresses stereotypes, misconceptions and biases about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It's a free program designed to increase participation in STEM by inspiring children aged 8 to 12 to explore STEM themes.

What do we offer?

- Free classroom resources aligned with the Australian Curriculum V9.0.
- Five STEM-fiction stories to excite imaginations and inspire exploration.
- First-hand accounts from people using their STEM skills to make the world a better place.
- Information and practical tools for parents and kids about STEM skills and careers.

Here are two sets of resources we think you'll love using in your classroom:

Pathfinders

Introduce your students to interesting people working with STEM skills to make the world a better place. We know how important role models are for inspiring young people's career choices, and you can't be what you can't see, which is why we have interviewed fascinating people who come from various backgrounds to ensure every child can see themselves working in STEM.

Imagining the Future

Take your class on an incredible journey into the world of space exploration with Imagining the Future. Set in the vastness of space, these five stories delve into different sectors of STEM, offering a captivating exploration of robotics, AI, climate change, resource management and more. These stories will inspire your students to envision their own STEM space careers.

Classroom activities

We've developed practical activities you can use in your lessons to make learning experiences socially relevant. Did we mention they're aligned to the Australian Curriculum V9.0?

See you in the future

We have developed a wide range of free resources to support teachers, parents and kids to discover the amazing world of STEM. Discover them all at www.futureyouaustralia.com.au

FUTUREyou

What's in this pack

This pack includes activities that are all related to Vinuri's career. Each Pathfinder has its own Teacher's Pack. You can find them on their individual pages or on the resources page under the *Pathfinders* or *Teach* tabs.

Our Imagining the Future short-fiction series also includes fantastic resources you can use in the classroom. The Bloom's Taxonomy and Gardner's Multiples Intelligences activity matrix includes a wide range of activities for your lesson plans that cover multiple areas and year levels in the Australian Curriculum V9.0.



Capability Convos

A short starter activity that can be adapted to other uses to get students thinking about the General Capabilities statements in the National Curriculum V9.0

Comprehension questions

Read about Vinuri's career journey as a class or individually, and then your students can practise their comprehension skills by answering these questions (answers included).

Career information sheet - for adults

This document provides practical advice for adults who are looking for ways to support students in understanding the different pathways they can take into specific career roles. This information sheet can also be passed on to parents if a student demonstrates an interest in a particular career area.

Classroom wall poster

An attractive poster that can be printed out and placed on a wall to highlight some of the skills required in Vinuri's career so students can see themselves reflected in those skills.

Student skills brain break

Students can undertake this activity for mindfulness while thinking about their own skills and talents.

Word-search answers

The student's pack includes a word search with words relevant to Vinuri's career. Find the answers here.

Capability Convos

Australian Curriculum V9.0 links for
Years 3 to 7

English

- Language
- Literacy

General Capabilities:

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Personal and Social Capability
- Ethical Understanding
- Literacy

Learning outcomes:

All students will be able to:

- identify some likes, dislikes, strengths, abilities and/or interests when showing a personal preference
- acknowledge that people have different needs, emotions and abilities

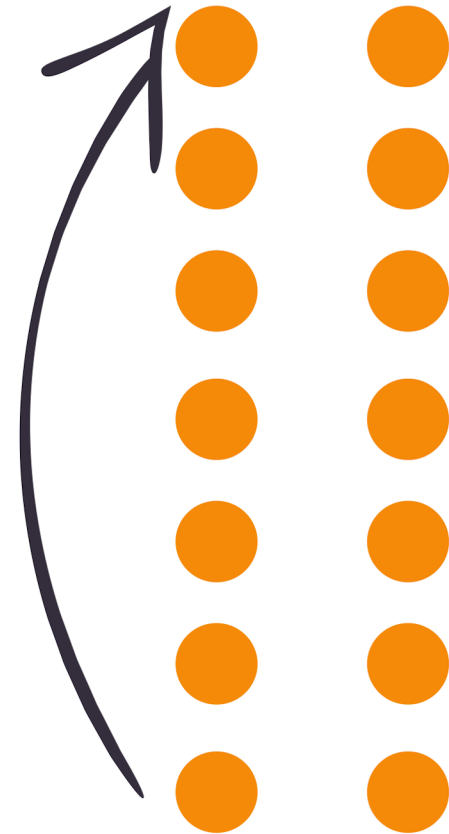
In addition, some students will be able to:

- describe the ways they are connected and can contribute to their community groups

Format

- Interactive game with 10 questions
- Easy to play
- Read about Vinuri's job and journey with the class
- Print the questions
- Play the game
- Modify or include new questions based on students' needs

Scan this QR code to find
out more about me.



Instructions for students

Line the class up in two lines facing each other to form pairs. Ask the first question. Once each pair has discussed it, get one line to move one person to their right. The person at the end runs around to the other end of the line. Then you ask the next question and repeat the process until all the questions have been asked.

Vinuri Researcher/Scientist

Question 1

What do you think is interesting about Vinuri's career?

Question 2

What skills does Vinuri have that you also have, and does she have any skills you don't have that you would like to have?

Question 3

Why do you think it's important to find a career that suits your skills and personality?

Question 4

How are your interests and hobbies similar to Vinuri's career?

Question 5

How do you think Vinuri's career contributes to society?

Question 6

What sort of problems do you think Vinuri might have doing this job in a rural or remote location?

Question 7

How important are Vinuri's communication skills to her research? Can you think of some examples?

Question 8

What tools or technology do you think Vinuri would use at work?

Question 9

How important in Vinuri's work is teamwork and collaboration? Think of an example.

Question 10

What do you think would be the biggest challenge in pursuing a career as a researcher?

Comprehension Questions

Australian Curriculum V9.0 links for Years 3 to 7

English
• Literacy

General Capabilities:
• Literacy

Learning outcomes:

All students will be able to:

- Identify that all people have strengths and weaknesses
- Actively think about what is happening in various texts as they read them
- Apply comprehension strategies to different media formats

In addition, some students will be able to:

- Identify different reasons for doing different jobs

Instructions:

- Format/print the students' question sheets (or load them onto school LMS) and direct students to a copy.
- Read the questions as a class to start, discussing any meanings
- Discuss with the class strategies for being able to answer the questions as the film plays
- Read Vinuri's questionnaire and 'Day in the Life' as a class, encouraging students to answer questions as you go

Adaptation note: Questions can be modified on the PDF to meet students' needs or learning focus areas in your classroom

Comprehension questions

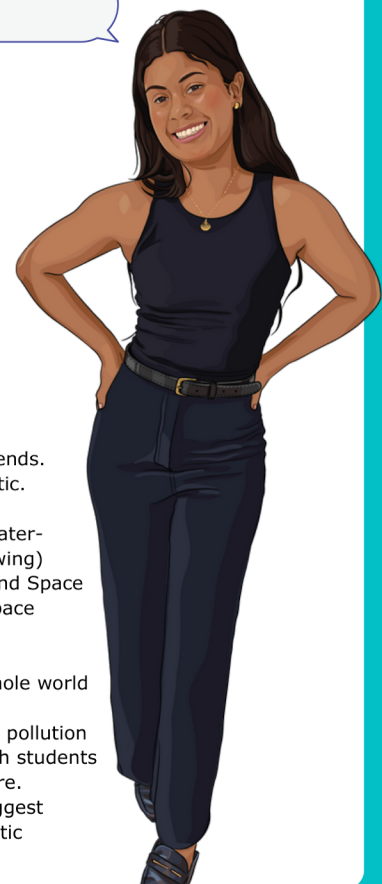
1. What was Vinuri more focused on at school?
2. What is Vinuri studying for her PhD?
3. What two things is Vinuri NOT good at?
4. What two things is Vinuri good at?
5. As well as being a research scientist, what other jobs does Vinuri have?
6. What is Vinuri trying to inspire students to be?
7. What does Vinuri love about her job?
8. What is Vinuri's main job?

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Answers:

1. Sports and catching up with her friends.
2. Bacteria that grows on marine plastic.
3. Running and washing her car.
4. Giving good advice and anything water-related (snorkelling, swimming, rowing)
5. Science communicator for Arludo and Space communicator for the Australian Space Agency.
6. Mindful of their plastic waste.
7. She's one of the very few in the whole world putting full-time effort into better understanding the impact of plastic pollution on our oceans and she gets to teach students about things they didn't know before.
8. To better understand one of the biggest modern threats to our oceans- plastic pollution.



Comprehension Questions

What was Vinuri more focused on at school?

As well as being a research scientist, what other jobs does Vinuri have?

1.

2.

What is Vinuri trying to inspire students to be?

What two things is Vinuri not good at?

1.

2.

What does Vinuri love about her job?

What is Vinuri studying for her PhD?

What is Vinuri's main job?

Name two things Vinuri can do.

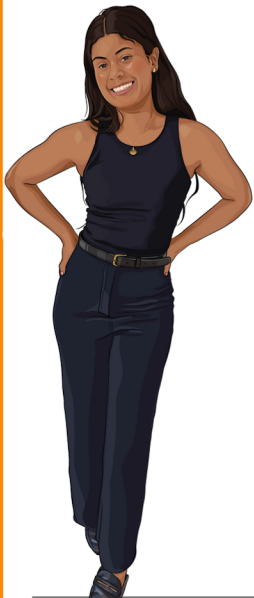
1.

2.

Researcher/Scientist

Vinuri is a researcher and scientist who loves to discover things we didn't know before. Travelling overseas and seeing how bad pollution is in other parts of the world inspired her to try to find a solution to the biggest modern threat to our oceans - plastic pollution. Find out more:

futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/vinuri



I use my communication skills to talk about my research and plastic pollution in general to students, making them more aware of the reality.

STEM Meter

How much Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) does this job use?



Source: jobsandskills.gov.au

Job stats and facts

Future job growth: Over the next five years jobs in this field are expected to grow moderately.

Location: 25% of researchers live outside capital cities.

Employment pathways: A bachelor degree in a related field is required.

3 STEM skills required for this job	Subjects to develop these skills	3 other jobs that value this skill
Critical thinking	Science, Mathematics, Digital Technology	Police Officer, Architect, Film Director
Science	Science	Vet, Chemical Engineer, Astronomer
Problem solving	Design and Technologies, Digital Technology	Software Developer, Private Investigator, Designer

Other careers related to this line of work

People

Human Resources Specialist
Social Worker
Psychologist
Market Researcher
Criminal Investigator

Education

Curriculum Developer
Educational Psychologist
Instructional Designer
Librarian
Careers Advisor

Leadership

Project Manager
Policy Analyst
Data Analyst
Market Research Analyst
Management Consultant

Health

Clinical Research Coordinator
Epidemiologist
Pharmaceutical Researcher
Nutritionist
Medical Laboratory Technician

Sustainability

Environmental Scientist
Renewable Energy Analyst
Sustainability Consultant
Urban Planner
Green Building Architect

The world is changing rapidly, and this means the career possibilities available to our kids are wide-ranging and exciting (and probably, don't exist yet!).

From traditional vocations to emerging fields, there are countless pathways to be explored.

Parents and teachers can create environments that encourage kids to discover and investigate possible careers that match their skills and interests.

We've included some links to other valuable resources that can help guide career conversations and explorations. Find out more at:

www.futureyouaustralia.com.au/resources/other

Vinuri is a researcher

NOT GOOD AT

Running or washing the car

LOVES

Getting in the ocean and travelling to new places

CAREER

PhD Candidate, researcher, scientist and science communicator

STUDIED

Bachelor of Marine Biology
PhD on plastic pollution

EXPERT ON

bacteria that live on plastic

WANTS TO

better understand the different impacts caused by plastic pollution in our oceans

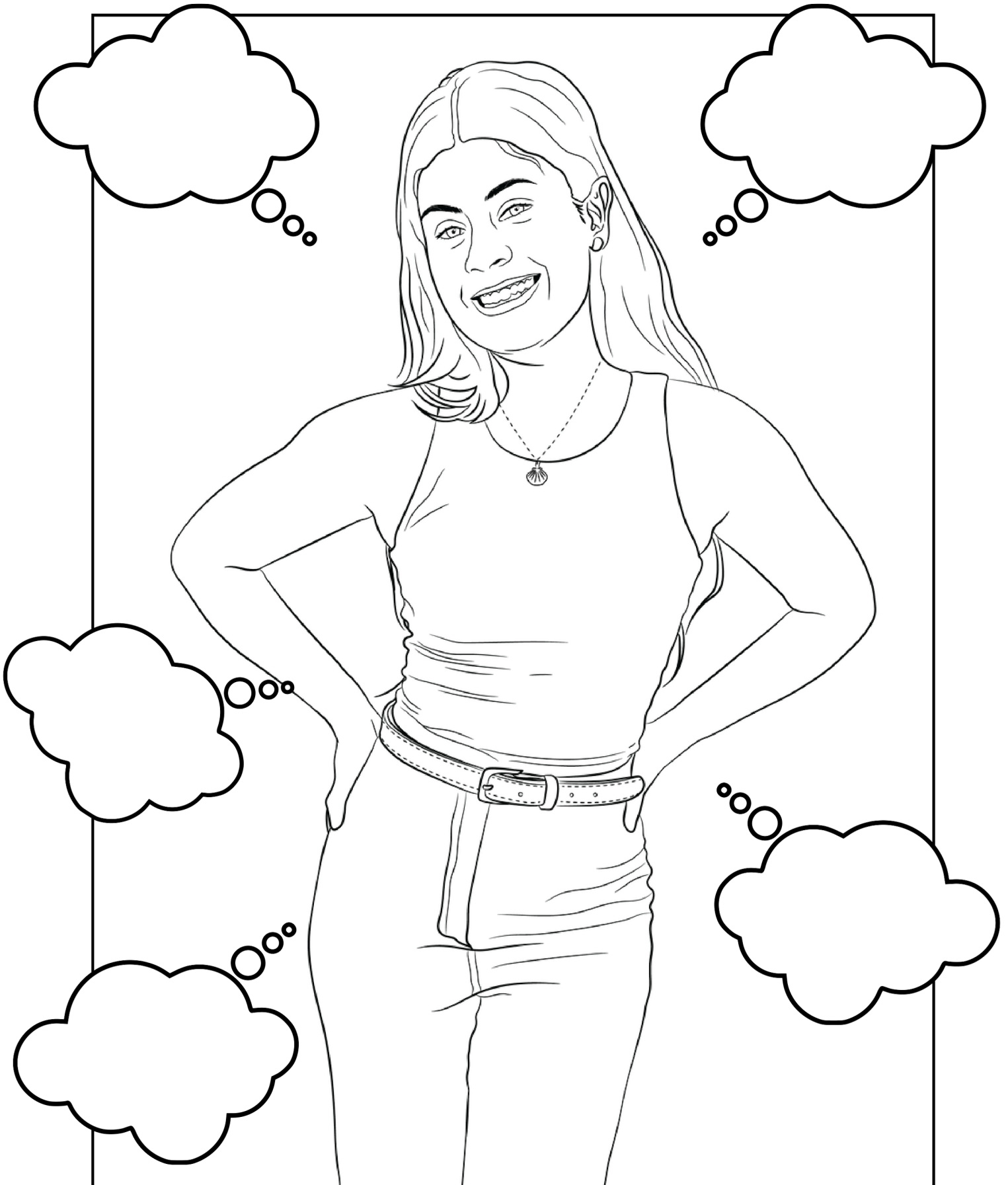
CAN

give good advice and do anything water-related (snorkel, swim, row, etc)

AT SCHOOL

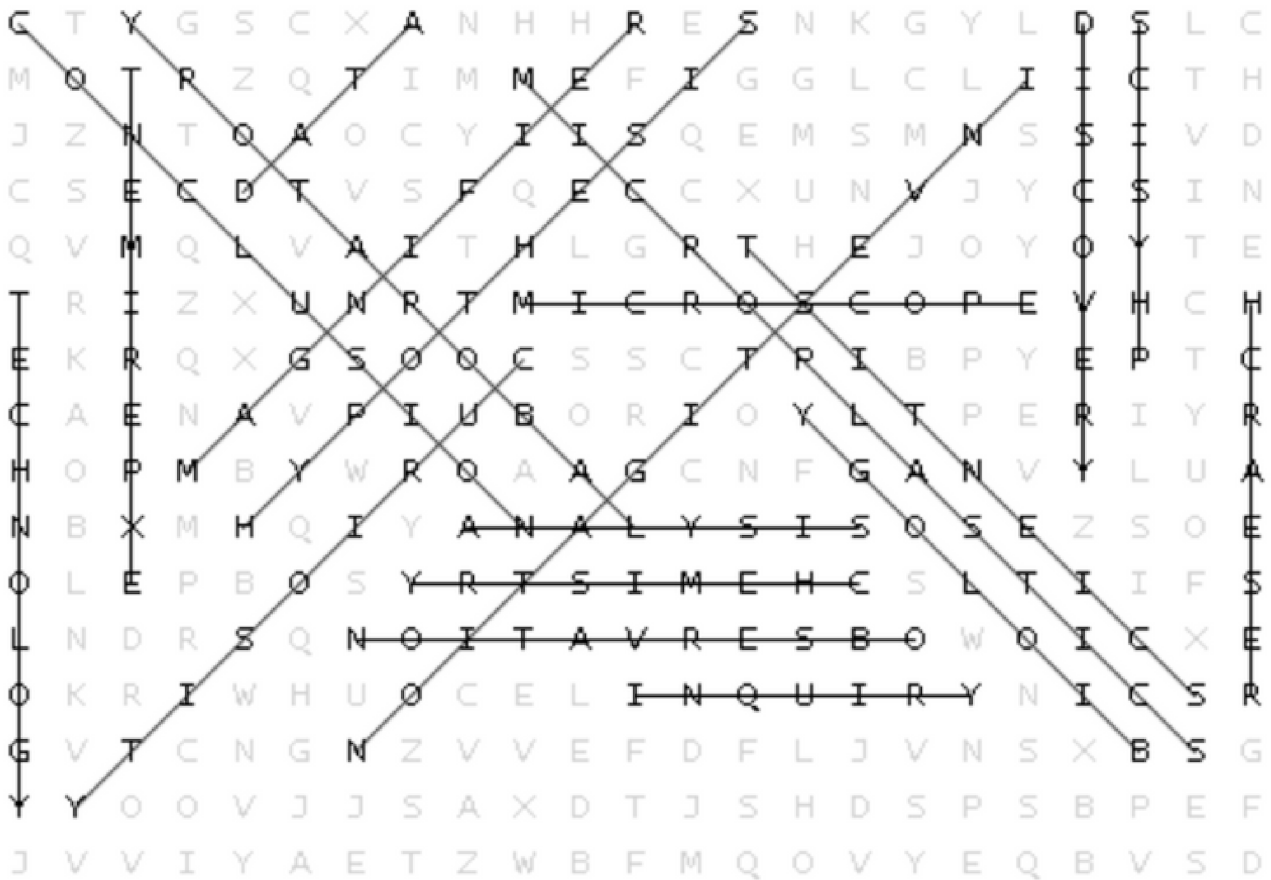
focused on sports and spending time with friends

Meet Vinuri. She's a researcher, scientist, science communicator and space communicator who loves discovering new things. Fill in the bubbles with 5 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills she uses in her job. Which of these skills do you think is most important? Which do you think would be the hardest to develop? When you've thought of the skills, colour in the rest of the image.



Pathfinder Workwords

Answers



Let's reflect

Were any of these words new to you? Look them up and find out what they mean.

Which of these skills do you think you are best at, or would like to get better at?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Can you think of anything else Vinuri might need to do her job?
