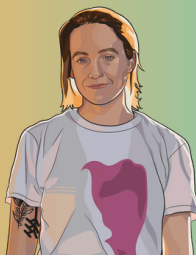# Welcome to Future You

Future You is a free program that gets kids aged 8 to 12 interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects and careers.

Future You addresses stereotypes, misconceptions and biases about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). It's 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

FUTURE*you*

What's in this pack

This pack includes activities that are all related to Meredith's film. 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
Watch Meredith's Pathfinder film 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 Meredith'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 Meredith's career. Find the answers here.

FUTURE**YOU**

Capability Convos

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
- Watch Meredith's film with the class
- Print the questions
- Play the game
- Modify or include new questions based on students' needs

Scan this QR code to watch my film.

SCAN ME
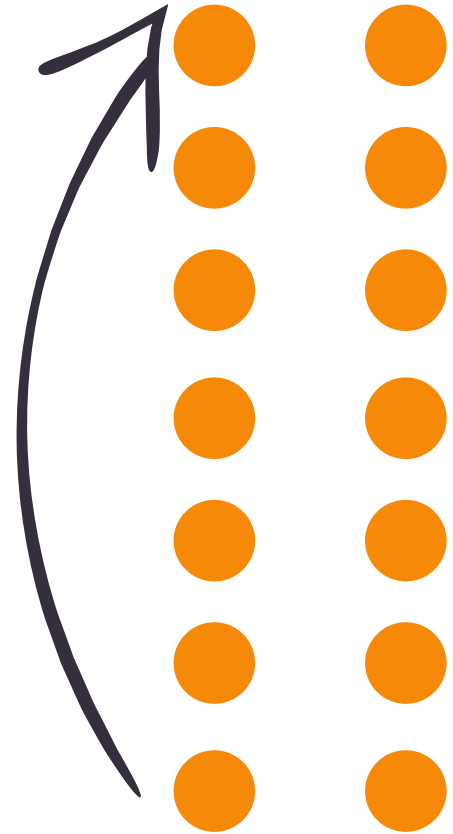
Instructions for students

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.

FUTURE**you**

www.futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/meredith

Meredith
Software Engineer

Question 1
What do you think is interesting about Meredith's career?

Question 2
What skills does Meredith 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 Meredith's career?

Question 5
How do you think Meredith's career contributes to society?

Question 6
How could this career be done in a rural or remote setting?

Question 7
How do you think the world has changed to become more accessible, and what do you think caused these changes?

Question 8
What kinds of tools or technologies do you think Meredith would use on the job?

Question 9
How important in Meredith's work is teamwork with other engineers, designers, and persons with disabilities? Think of an example.

Question 10
What do you think would be the biggest challenge in pursuing a career as a software engineer?

Comprehension Questions

Learning outcomes:

All students will be able to:
- Identify that all people have strengths and weaknesses
- Actively think about what is happening in a video while they are watching it
- 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
- Watch Meredith's film with the 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. Name FOUR things Meredith can do.

2. And two things Meredith CAN'T do.

3. Where does Meredith work, and what does she do?

4. What got Meredith interested in computer programming?

5. What kinds of jobs does Meredith say computer science degrees are valuable in?

6. What 'age' does Meredith say we're in?

7. What does Meredith believe is the joy of life?

Scan this QR code to watch my film.

SCAN ME

Answers:
1. Code, play soccer, make music, an ollie.
2. A kick-flip, reach things up high.
3. Google, she makes sure the internet is for everyone.
4. Music technology
5. Healthcare, building an app, education, working on the web.
6. The Age of Connection
7. Connecting with people and learning from them and being friends.

FUTURE**YOU**

www.futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/meredith

Connector

Comprehension Questions

Name FOUR things Meredith can do.

1.

2.

3.

4.

What 'age' does Meredith say we're in?

Name TWO things Meredith can't do.

1.

2.

What got Meredith interested in computer programming?

Where does Meredith work, and what does she do?

**What kinds of jobs does Meredith say computer science degrees are valuable in?**

1.

2.

3.

4.

What does Meredith believe is the joy of life?

Software Engineer

Meredith is a software engineer who is passionate about accessibility and inclusivity. Meredith works on the Chrome Accessibility team, adding support for accessibility features to the Web Platform to make sure it caters to the needs of people with disabilities. Find out more:
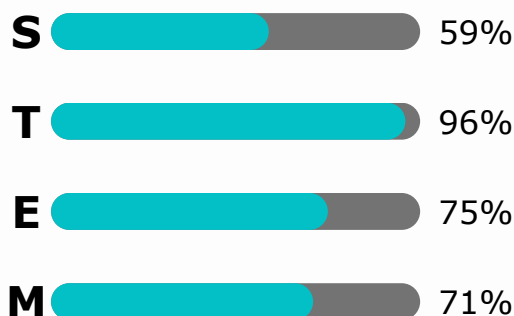
futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/meredith
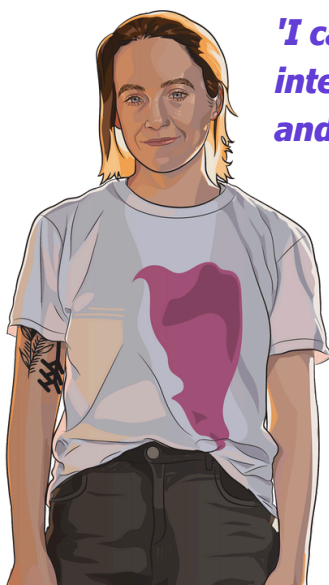
'I can make sure the internet is for everyone, and I love it.'"

STEM Meter

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

S	59%
T	96%
E	75%
M	71%

Source: jobsandskills.gov.au

Job stats and facts

Future job growth: Over the next five years jobs in software development are expected to grow by 27%.

Employment pathways: A bachelor or postgraduate degree in a related field or a vocational education and training (VET) qualification.

3 STEM skills required for this job	Subjects to develop these skills	3 other jobs that value this skill
Programming	Digital Technologies, Mathematics	Web Developer, Information Security Analyst, Computer Systems Engineer
Evaluation	English, HASS, Science, Technologies, the Arts	Research Associate, Epidemiologist, Grant Manager
Analysis	Science, Mathematics	Product Analyst, Quantitative Analyst, IT Analyst

FUTURE**YOU**

Other careers related to this line of work

👥 People

Developer Relations
Developer Marketing
Sales Engineer
Technical Recruiter

📦 Product

Quality Assurance
Test Engineer
Business Analyst
Program Manager

🤝 Support

DevOps Engineer
Database Administrator
Site Reliability Engineer

🎓 Teaching

Technical Writer
Trainer

🔍 Analytical

Data Scientist
Security Analyst
Research and Development

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

FUTUREYOU

Meredith is a Connector

CAN'T
do a kickflip or reach things up high

STUDIED
Music Technology and then a Bachelor of Computer Science at university

CAREER
Software engineer on the Google Chrome accessibility team

WORKS WITH
amazing, smart, kind, generous people

EXPERT ON
writing accessibility code for the internet
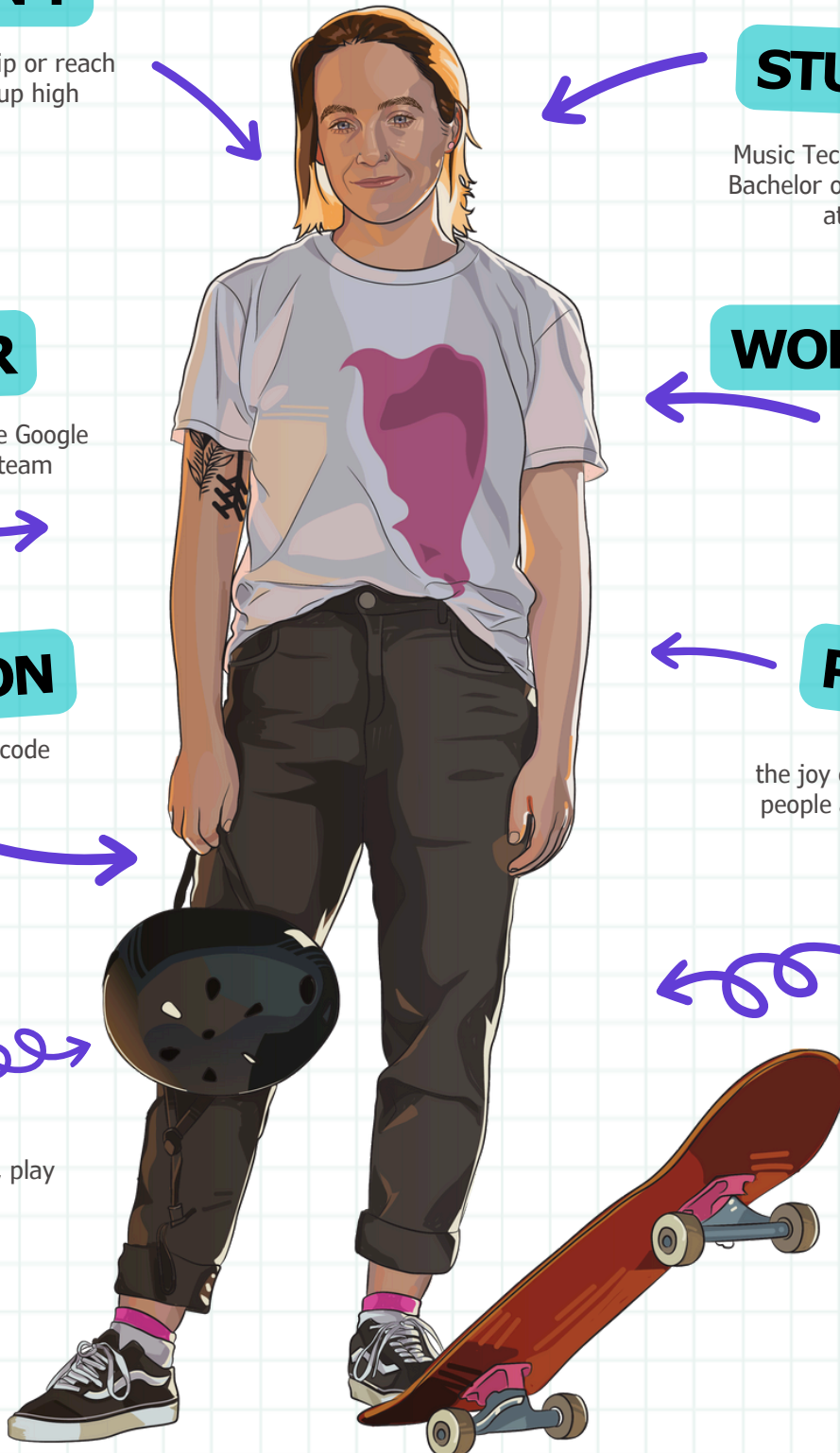
PURPOSE
the joy of life is connecting with people and learning from them

CAN
write code, make music, play soccer

LOVES
the guitar and making sure the internet is for everyone

future you

www.futureyouaustralia.com.au/pathfinders/meredith

Meet Meredith. She's a software engineer. 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.
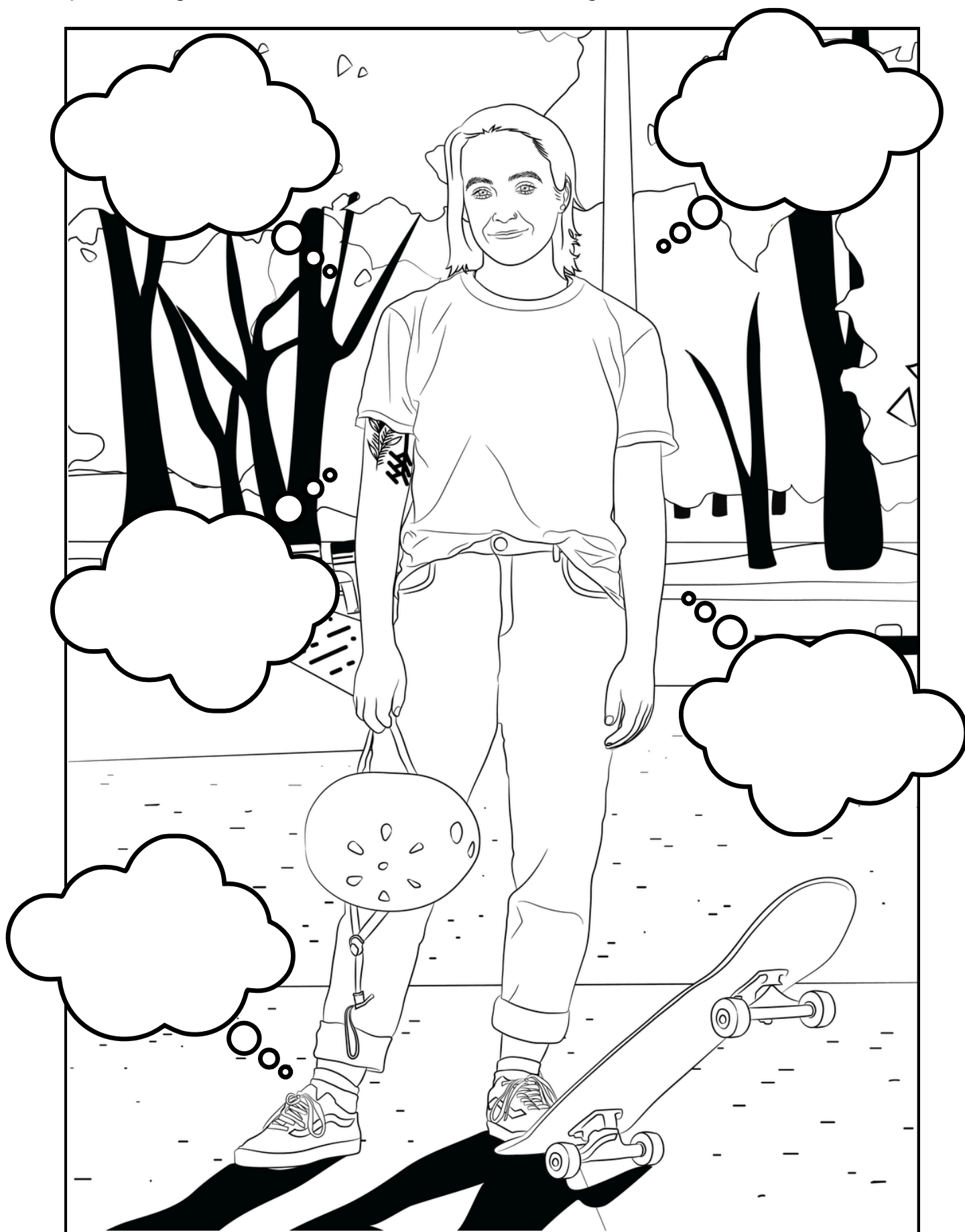
Pathfinder Workwords

Answers
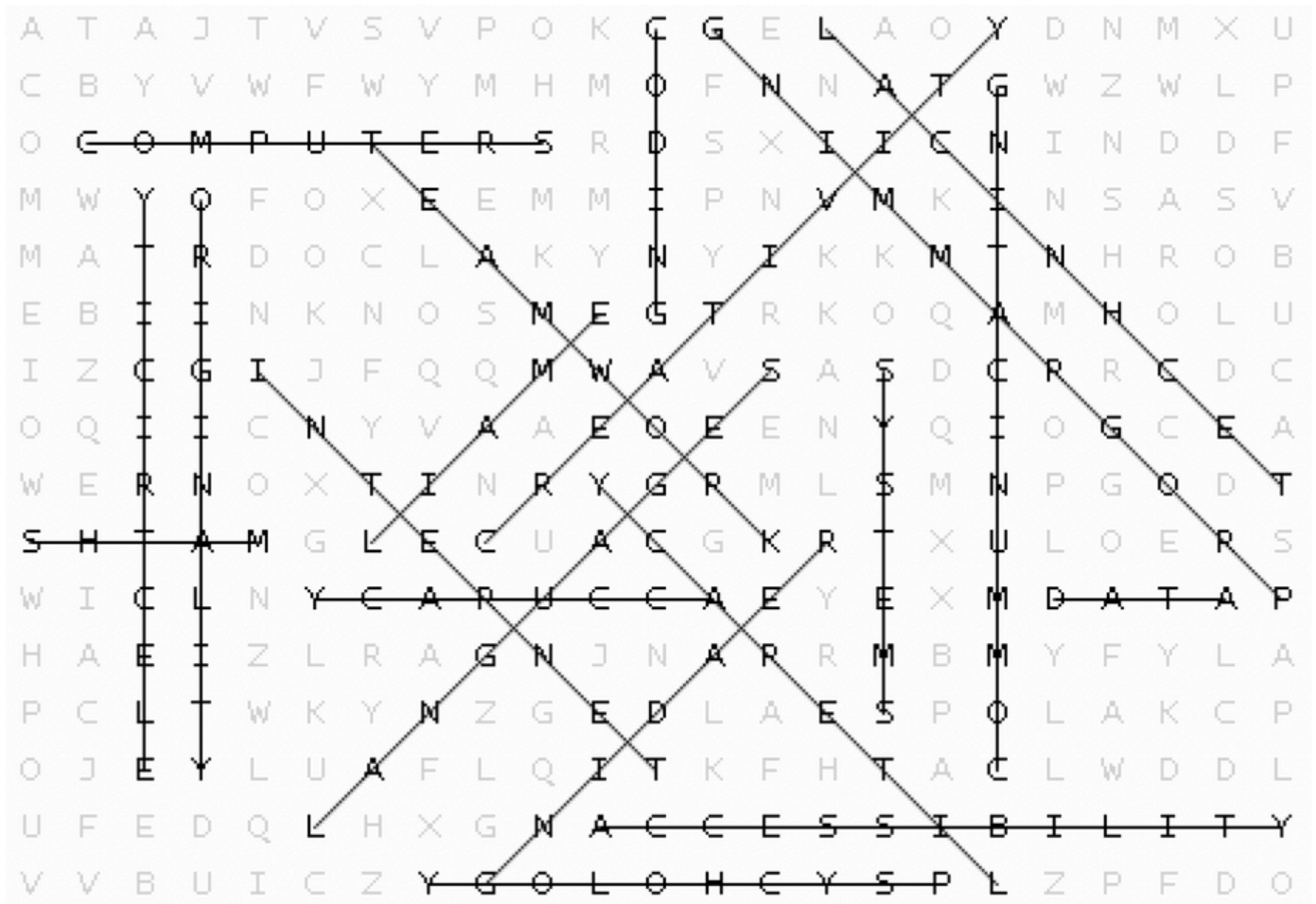
Let's reflect

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 Meredith might need to do her job?

_____