

Future Careers

There are three areas where geography overlaps with careers. These are:

- Jobs which are the result of geography: jobs that have been created as a result of geographical change, which might include the new post-industrial developments which have located in areas that were once occupied by heavy industry.
- Jobs that follow on from geography: jobs that people who have taken their geography studies to a particular level could be expected to have an interest in.
- Jobs that involve the use of what could be called 'geographical' skills or knowledge.

Skills and Knowledge

This is a difficult area. Students starting primary school in September 2010 will finish compulsory participation in learning through one of the four national learning routes in 2023. The world is changing fast and markets and industries which have not yet been imagined will emerge. Today's learners will need to continually update their knowledge and develop their skills to take advantage of future opportunities.

What will be the appropriate skill sets for that date in the future?

What will students need to know?

What will *useful* knowledge be?

What *subject specific* knowledge will be valuable?

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) are becoming increasingly common, and this is one area where students could be expected to develop an advantage if they become familiar with the tools.

For more on the value of Geographical Information in careers, visit <http://schools.esriuk.com/>

The knowledge that will be needed is hard to predict, but this reinforces the importance of skills development, personal qualities and personal presentation. This links strongly with the 3 aims of statutory learning:

- Successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve
- Confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives
- Responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society

The screenshot shows the 'GIS for Schools' website. At the top, there are logos for 'GIS for Schools' and 'ESRI UK'. Below the logos is a navigation menu with links for Home, What is GIS?, Software, Maps and data, Resources, How to buy, Technical, and Contact. The main content area features a map of Kent's Swale region with various locations marked. Below the map, there is a section titled 'Our GIS for Schools Programme offers everything you need to integrate GIS into your lessons'. This section includes a list of software options: 'DigitalWorlds' (an easy to use, entry level GIS. Recommended for Key Stage 3 and GCSE) and 'ArcView 3.3a' (a more advanced GIS. As DigitalWorlds and ArcView are fully compatible, you can progress to ArcView for more sophisticated analysis. Recommended for GCSE and A-level). A 'HIGHLY COMMENDED Geographical Association' award badge is also present. At the bottom, there is a 'News and events' section.

