

NOT WAITING FOR SUPERMAN

373 Alternative Job Ideas for Teachers



What Are Your Skills and Qualities ?

When applying for jobs, you need to be clear about your skills, strengths and areas of specialism.

You are the 'product' which you need to sell – so you need to understand the advantages and benefits you bring to the person who employs you.

It is useful to start by making a list of your most desirable qualities.

Are you?

	Consistent	Diligent
	Confident	Curious
Ambitious	Empathetic	Educated
Passionate	Outgoing	Efficient
Positive	Reliable	Eloquent
Driven	Professional	Focused
Enthusiastic	Resilient	Intuitive
Hard-working	Independent	Meticulous
Team Focused	Imaginative	Open-minded
Self Managed	Methodical	Organized
Proactive	Objective	Patient
Detail-oriented	Motivated	Perceptive
Honest	Cheerful	Persuasive
Upbeat	Co-operative	Punctual
Marketable	Energetic	Relaxed
Intelligent	Decisive	Resourceful
Adaptable	Creative	Responsible
Caring	Adaptable	Technological
Ethical	Enthusiastic	Persistent
Polite	Conscientious	Disciplined



The Transferable skills of a Teacher

Add to your list the transferable skills which you have learned in the course of doing your classroom job - these are likely to be:

1. You Work Hard

Most employers know when they employ an ex-teacher they get someone who isn't afraid of hard work.

2. You Learn New Things Fast

A new employer won't have to train you out of bad habits, and because you are a good learner - you will improve fast.

3. You Are a Fantastic Communicator

Good communication skills are important almost everywhere .. you have practised and improved yours more than most people alive!

4. You Are Organised and Can Work Under Pressure - to Tight Deadlines

Teaching in a modern classroom requires an ability to organise a complex job and work under pressure, often at speed.

5. You Are Resilient and Determined

You don't give up when students or management throw a curve ball at you - you adapt and make the best of things, often with a smile on your face.

6. You React Positively to Change

Most people in employment don't cope well with change. Teachers in modern schools have to - to survive.



7. You Have Great People Skills

Teachers quickly develop an understanding of what motivates each individual they work with. We use this to plan our classrooms and lessons - and to talk to each individual and get the required response in lessons.

8. You Are a Natural Leader

Teachers lead groups of students every lesson of every day. We provide motivation and inspiration to keep them going - and drive them to improve their performance over time.

9. You Are A Creative Problem Solver

Creativity is at the very heart of a teaching job. Each lesson you take a dry and boring curriculum and turn it into something which sings!

10. You Use Your Initiative

If you have an idea or plan to get the most from a student - you do it, test the response, and adapt your plan. For most people at work this is not normal behaviour.

You should now be able to read job specifications and measure yourself against them - knowing how amazing you are!

Now let's start to consider what alternative careers are possible, for someone with your skills.



Jobs Which Value Your Education Experience

- **Other teaching jobs** (*not in the classroom*) - e.g. teaching support, personal tutor, TEFL teacher, Adult education lecturer, FE lecturer, Prisons instructor, Distance or open learning college tutor.
- **Education Administration** - any administration or management job in school, college or FE.
- **Jobs Related to your Degree** - rewind to when you graduated and you had lots of choice about what to do next - these choices still exist.
- **'Any Degree' Jobs** - 60% of jobs advertised requiring a degree don't specify a specific subject.
- **Subject Specialism Roles** - jobs exist in most of the school subject areas, you are experienced there - why not work somewhere you can use this knowledge?
- **Training and Development Roles** - Companies and other organisations all have training and development programmes for their staff, your skills will be highly valued here.
- **The Charity Sector** - ex-teachers who want to make a difference are often drawn to the charity sector where they can make their contribution in a different way.
- **Educational media and publishing** - you have valuable experience teaching specific things which publishers need, to produce media and material for schools.
- **Other jobs working with children** - e.g. Community or youth worker, play worker, education manager, after school club coordinator.
- **Counselling and Pastoral Work** - e.g. counsellor, family therapist, community home/school teacher.
- **Education Welfare** - social worker, health visitor
- **Other Government Departments** - your local or national government will recognise and value your skills, and there are a wide variety of jobs available in other public sector organisations.
- **Advice and Information based jobs** - e.g. careers advisor, information/education officer, environmental education officer, learning mentor, museum education officer, youth training and education worker.
- **Further Education or Training** - while this isn't strictly speaking a 'job', it is an option for many ex-teachers wanting to refocus their lives.
- **Community Project Leader** - a wide variety of community projects are funded by government and private businesses, your organisational experience could be extremely valuable to manage them



Job Possibilities Based on Your Subject Specialism

Biology: research, outdoor education, forestry jobs, park technician, Naturalist, lab technician

Chemistry: chemist, lab technician, research, plastics industry, Petroleum/oil/gas/lubricant industry, polymers

Physics: research, aviation, electronics, engineering

Maths: statistician, actuary, computer programming, researcher

Food Technology / Home Economics: consumer relations, magazines, cookbook publishers, consumer education, retail manager, buyer

Business Education: business colleges, office manager, bank trainer, insurance agent, retail manager, union instructor, business management

Physical Education: sporting goods sales, outdoor education, camps, clubs, youth director, athletic director, health clubs

Foreign Languages: translator, import/export business, publishing, airlines, state department / foreign ministry, TEFL teacher

English: technical writing, book/magazine/newspaper publishing, writing, editing, advertising, public relations, grant writing, market research interviewer, reporter

Social Studies: counselling, customer service, claims representative, account representative, auditor, insurance agent, personnel trainer, museum education

Art: jewellers, display artist, illustrator, travel agent, studio manager, art supplies sales, store manager, art gallery manager, art museum guide

Music: sales, musician, caseworker, program coordinator, music therapist, private teacher, retail store manager, radio personality

Elementary/ Primary Education: (any of the above – plus ..) training, credit analyst, retail management, claims processor, customer service, financial planner, park technician, children's book writer/editor/publisher, day-care manager

Special Education: educational television writer/director/program coordinator, insurance underwriter, activity therapist



242 Alternative Career Possibilities for ex-Teachers

Excuse the 'information dump' approach below .. but your classroom skills can be used in all sorts of different ways.

(You're amazing, remember?!)

Scan down this list at the jobs that require your transferable skills for inspiration ..

- Accountant
- Accrediting Agent
- Activity Director
- Actuary
- Administration: in businesses, government agencies, non-profit organizations, organized charities, and foundations Administrator
- Adult Day-Care Coordinator
- Adult Educator
- Adult Vocational Education
- Adventure Travel Specialist
- Advertising
- Advertising/Marketing Consultant
- Animal Control Officer
- Animal Trainer
- Anthropologist
- Art Teachers: Draw/Photographs, Science Illustrator, Medical Illustrator
- Art Therapist
- Artist
- Astronomy
- Athletic Coach
- Athletic Director
- Athletic Trainer
- Author
- Baker
- Bank Manager/Officer
- Bed and Breakfast Owners
- Blogger
- Bilingual Consultant
- Bilingual Education
- Board of Education member



- Book Conservation / restoration
- Book Editor
- Book Publisher
- Business Plan Writer
- Buyer
- Career Development/Services
- Caterer
- Chef
- Child-Care Director
- Children's Party Planner
- City Planner
- City Recreation Director
- Clergy / religious leader
- College Student Personnel Worker
- College/University Professor
- College/University Administrator
- Columnist
- Community Outreach Programs
- Computer Engineer
- Computer Network Administrator
- Computer Programmer
- Computer Research Analyst
- Computer Support Service Owner
- Computer Trainer/Tutor
- Computer and Video Game Designer
- Congressional Aide / political support role
- Continuing Education Class teacher
- Copywriter
- Correctional Officer
- Counselling Psychologist
- Career/Placement
- Counselling
- Credit Analyst
- Customer Service
- Dance Teacher
- Dancing and Music School Owner
- Data Base Designer
- Demographer



- Department of Housing and Urban Development: work for government health agencies, city planners, School systems, consulting on demographic studies and research, public and private agencies
- Design Specialized Programs for school presentations/productions: historical skits, unique music concerts, health fairs, science fairs, environment skits/fairs, specialized seminars/workshops, holiday skits/productions, cultural fairs Designer
- Director of Community Development Director of Placement/Career Centre
- Doggy Day Care
- Ecologist
- Editor
- Education Consultant
- Education Director
- Educational Administration
- Educational Counselling
- Educational Sales & Training
- E-learning resource creator
- English as a second Language (ESL)
- Entertainment Industry: trade fairs, promotional shows, motivational programs
- Entrepreneur
- Environmental Agencies
- Environmental Education
- Estate Manager
- Estate Planning Specialist
- Event Planner
- Executive Search Recruiter
- Farm Manager
- FBI or MI5 Agent
- Financial Advisor
- Financial Planner
- Financial Sales Agent
- Fire Marshal
- Fish/Game/environmental Warden
- Flight Attendant
- Florist
- Food Service Manager
- Franchise Owner
- Freelance Writer
- Fundraiser



- Game, toy, software creator or tester
- Grant Coordinator/Writer
- Greeting Card Designer
- Health and Fitness Coach
- Health Regulatory Inspector
- Health Services Manager/Administrator
- Higher Education Roles: Financial Aid Office, Admissions, Career Services, Student Life, Special Programs (Special Studies, College of Education), various Academic Departments, Community Outreach Programs, Continuing Education, Academic Instruction, Counselling/ Advising, Learning/Testing/Tutoring Centres
- Historian
- Home/school sales
- Hotel and Resort Manager
- Human Resource Specialist
- In-service Training Program Presenter
- Insurance Claims Representative
- Insurance Consultant
- Insurance Underwriter
- Interior Designer/Decorator
- Internet Content Developer
- Internet Entrepreneur
- Internet Security Specialist/Inspector
- Landscape Architect
- Librarian
- Library Guides
- Linguist
- Literary Agent/Agency
- Lobbyist
- Management Analyst and Consultant
- Management
- Marketing and Advertising Manager
- Marketing Research Analyst
- Mathematician
- Motivational Speaker
- Medical Record Technician
- Meeting Planner
- Messenger
- Museum Curator/Archivist



- Museum Director
- Museum/Arts Management: Guides, Educational Coordinators, subject-matter specialists, design public relations materials, or audio-visual presentations for the public or to take into schools
- Museum Curator
- Music Teachers
- Naturalist
- News Analyst
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Occupational Therapist
- Online Researcher
- Online Teacher
- Operations Manager
- Operations Research Analyst Painting Restorer
- Paralegal
- Park Naturalist
- National Park Ranger
- Party Planner
- Patent Agent
- Periodical Editor
- Personal Chef
- Personal Shopper
- Personal Trainer
- Personal Training: time management, stress management, assertiveness
- Personnel and Labour Relations Manager
- Personnel Recruiter
- Pet Sitter
- Physical Therapist
- Police Officer
- Political Scientist
- Postal Service Worker
- Principal
- Prison Facility Teacher
- Probation Officer
- Professional Organization Manager
- Professional Speaker
- Program Developer
- Promotion Specialist
- Proof reader



- Property/Facilities Manager
- SAT Education/Tutoring
- Public Information Officer
- Public Relations Manager
- Public Relations Personnel
- Public Relations Specialist
- Purchasing Agent
- Radio and Television Announcer
- Rancher
- Real Estate Advisor
- Real Estate Agent/Broker
- Real Estate Appraiser Records
- Clerk Records Manager
- Recreation Director
- Recreation and Park Manager
- Recreation Worker
- Recreational Therapist
- Regional Planner
- Rehabilitation Counsellor
- Religious Vocation
- Reporter
- Research Assistant
- Resort Manager
- Restaurant Manager
- Resume / CV Writer
- Retails Sales Manager
- Risk Manager
- Sales Manager
- Sales Representative: insurance, real estate, travel industry, publishing companies
- Science Education / science communicator
- School Administrator
- School Counsellor
- School Media Specialist
- Scriptwriter
- Security Consultant/Technician
- Securities Sales Worker
- Service Sales Representative
- Sign Language Interpreter



- Small Animal Breeder
- Small Business Owner
- Social Services Administrator
- Social Service Agency Administration
- Social Worker
- Sociology
- Speech and Hearing Personnel
- Speech Writer
- Sports Management Professional
- Statistician
- Store Manager
- Teacher Union Careers
- Technical Support Specialist
- Technical Writer and Editor
- Textbook Editor
- Title Examiner
- Title Searcher
- Toy and Game Designer
- Trainer
- Translator
- Travel Agent
- Tutoring
- Urban Planner
- Veterinarian/Veterinarian Assistant
- Virtual Office Services
- Webmaster
- Web Page Designer
- Web Site Creator
- Web Site Editor
- Wedding Consultant
- Wholesale/Retail Buyer
- Wholesale Sales Representative
- Workshop Presentations
- Writers: National Association of Science
- Writing books, booklets, newsletters, magazine articles
- Zoo and Aquarian Curator/Director
- Zoologist



Entrepreneurship

With your creative problem solving skills and adaptability, you could create your own job - one which fits around your life (rather than the other way around).

A growing number of teachers are realising that their lifestyle goals are best achieved by working for themselves.

Teacherpreneurs! .. Infopreneurs!

The lifestyle advantages a successful business can offer can be significant:

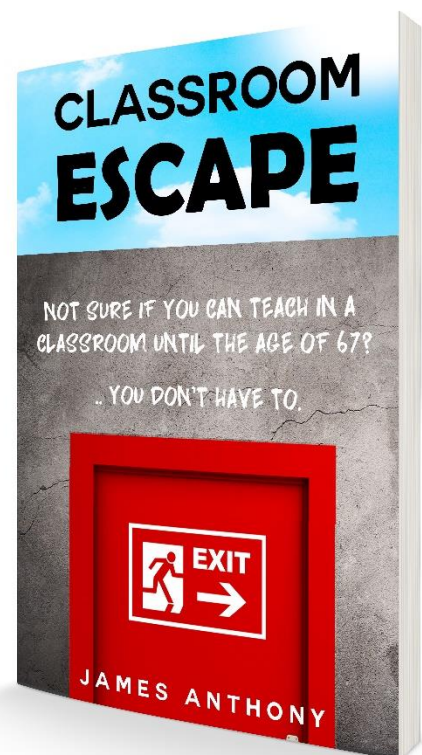
- An unlimited salary
- The time and place of work is your choosing
- The chance to step back from your business when you choose
- Freedom to spend more time with your family and friends
- A fulfilling life helping customers solve their problems
- The chance to make a worldwide impact with your skills

Look again at the list of transferable skills of typical teachers above - it reads like a job advertisement for an entrepreneur .. you already have the required skills.

You can start a business doing anything, but with the growing value of information and the ability to share what you know online .. information businesses are a golden opportunity for most teachers.

This means selling training and courses online. You can start while still in the classroom - and grow a business to replace your current income.

The best place to start is my book '**Classroom Escape**'. Reading this and completing the accompanying workbook builds a blueprint for an entrepreneurial life which you will love.



[Get Classroom Escape free here.](#)

