

# Skills Express - 3D games environment

## Introduction

The 3D games environment is split into different scenes. You start off in **Skills Central** train station which looks like this.

You can visit two more stations, **the E2 Employability Arena** and **Enterprise Academy**. Try the game scenarios of **Who wants to be an Entrepreneur?**, **The Perfect Employee** and **Skills Karting** for a more in depth look.

The 3D games environment is designed to be a fun way of learning about employability and enterprise and uses interactivity, video and sound to be engaging and informative.



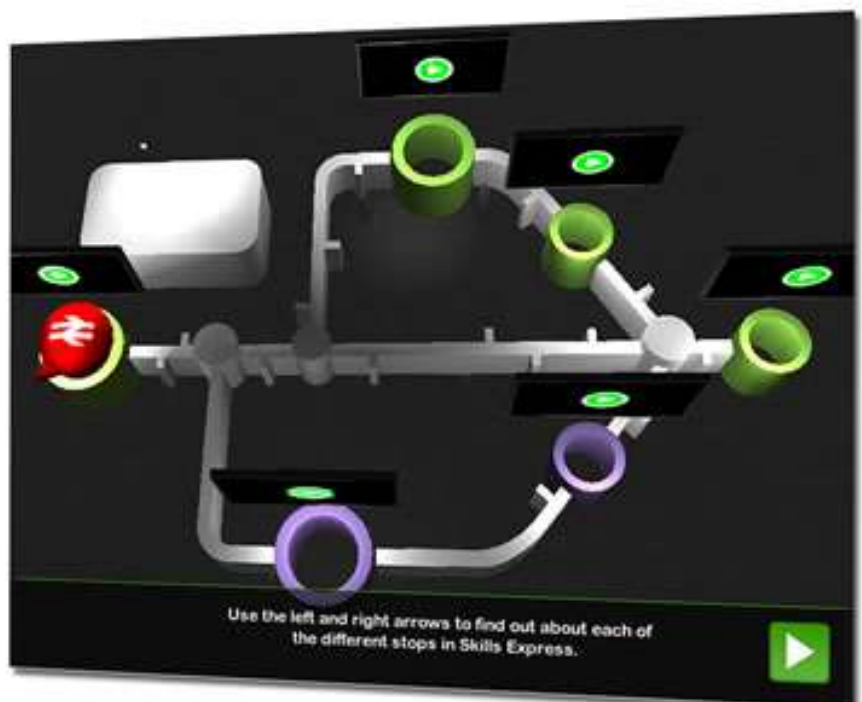
## Moving around

To move around you should use the **arrow keys**. Clicking the left mouse button and dragging makes you look around. This becomes easier with practise.

## Interactive map

The **'i' icon** at the top right allows you to find out about each of the scenes by giving a preview.

You can then visit any of the scenes directly by clicking on the **Visit>>** button.



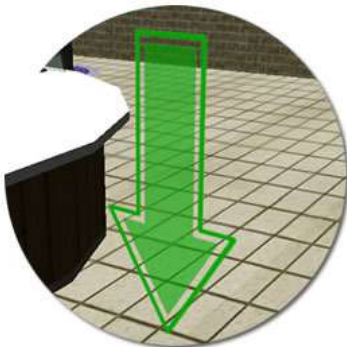
## Skills pickups



As you move around you can find various 'Skills Pickups' in each station. These come under the following categories: **Managing, Creativity, Teamwork, Communication, and Flexibility**. Collecting these allows you to move from the Skills Starter level through to Skills Superstar. Check your progress at the top left of the screen.

## Common objects to look for:

### Green Arrows



The green arrows are important. Whenever you see one of these you should walk up to it. When you collide you will be given information or instructions on what to do next.

## Video screens

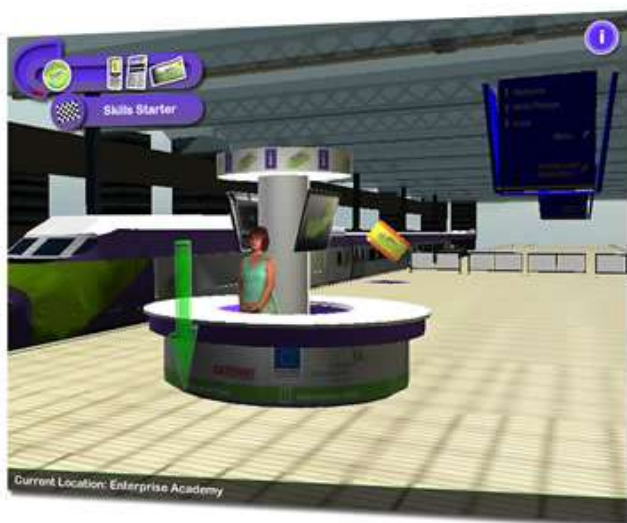
Streaming video clips are played on the large screens that are in the stations.

You will be prompted with a button to begin playing.

*(These should start pretty quickly on a broadband internet connection but please be patient on a slower connection)*



## Information points



Information points cover common questions and answers. You will find one in Skills Central, Enterprise Academy and the E2 Employability Arena.

## Vending machines

There are vending machines dotted around the various locations. If a green arrow is near then you can get additional hints, tips and advice to help you on your way.





## Magazine stands

Each of these will give you access to a different information sheet.

*(This is downloadable as a PDF file and will require acrobat reader to be installed on your PC.)*



## Audio player

You can listen to audio clips that will give you advice or information. Click on the **Play Clip>>** button to listen. This is found in Skills Central.

*(Similar to video clips this is streaming over the internet and you may have to be patient on a slower network)*



## Interactive Games

In addition to Skills Central, Enterprise Academy and Employability Arena there are 3 more games based options: **Who wants to be an entrepreneur?**, **The Perfect Employee** and **Skills Karting**.

### Who wants to be an entrepreneur?



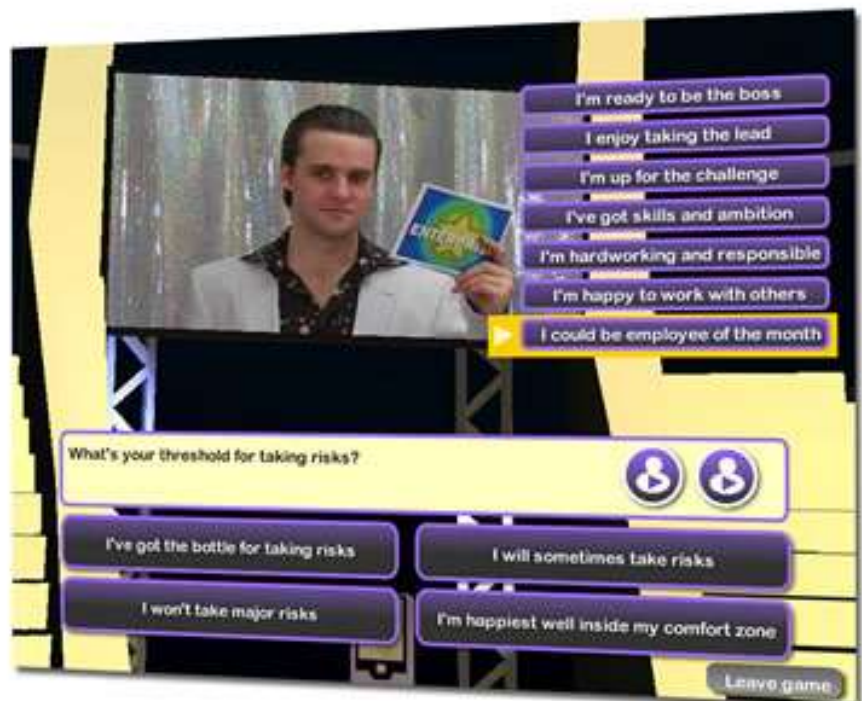
This game allows you to rate yourself on the scale of entrepreneurship.

You are asked several video questions and then have to choose from the four options.

If you require further advice you can click on the icons next to the question to watch another clip.

As you answer the questions you start to reveal which of the options matches your answers. This can be either from **I'm ready to be the boss** to **I could be employee of the month**.

Being an entrepreneur isn't for everyone and this game is designed to get you thinking about some of the issues. There are no right or wrong answers.



## The Perfect Employee

Find out about real interview situations – what to do and what not to do.

You take the role of an employer and get to decide who you think is right for the job.



### The interview



When you begin the interview section of The Perfect Employee you will see and listen to ten common interview questions being asked by an employer.

**Additional info:** You can get additional information on questions by turning and clicking on the small screen on the table.



Listen to both Scott and Elidh's answers.

Try to think about what makes good answers and others not so good.

Decide who you think is best and click on the button to confirm.

At the end you will have chosen the perfect employee and told whether you agree with the other interviewer.

### The waiting area

On the right, as you enter the game you will find the waiting area. Click on the monitors to begin playing some outtakes and see some really good examples of **how not to behave** in an interview situation!



## Skills Karting

Make your way to the go-kart and begin to move around the track.

As you bump into arrows you get to view video clips or listen to audio clips.

As normal, use the arrow keys to move around, but for this game you don't need to use your mouse.





## Technical

**Plugin:** Skills Express 3D environment runs on the Unity 3D plugin (minimum 2.6). This needs to be installed first for it to run and will be prompted to install automatically if not already installed.

**Pop-up blocker:** This needs to be turned off for skillsexpress.net so that the external information links can be opened.

**Machine specification:** As this is a more complex 3D approach a more powerful PC is required than for example to run word processor software.

Graphics - A 3D capable graphics card with minimum 64MB RAM and 128MB recommended and capable of running DirectX 9. Graphical performance will differ depending on the graphics card.

System Memory - At least 512MB of system RAM with 1GB minimum recommended.

Operating system - It has been designed and tested on a Microsoft Windows machine with Internet explorer (version 7 and above recommended) and this is the supported format but there should be no issues with running on a Mac and OSX.

(It may run on lower specification machines but this would need to be tested on an individual basis)

**Network:** To get the best possible experience then you should use a broadband internet connection. Skills Express is around a 20MB file and should take around 3 minutes to download on a 1Mbps connection. Unity 3D runs over http and requires no additional network access other than the internet using the http protocol.

**Additional advice:** Issues have been found with IE being in protected mode. To solve this you may need to add www.skillsexpress.net as a trusted site: Tools>Internet Options>Trusted Sites>Sites>Add

On an educational or corporate network you should contact a system administrator for advice before installing the plugin software. Gateway accepts no responsibility for the installation of the Unity plugin or issues arising from this.

For more information regarding Unity 3D web player plugin visit: <http://unity3d.com/webplayer/>