* Life experiences—like waiting tables or volunteering—develop **transferable skills** that can apply to many jobs.
* Transferable skills include both **technical** (e.g., programming, data analysis) and **soft skills** (e.g., communication, problem-solving, teamwork).
* Employers increasingly use **skills-based hiring**, valuing what you can do over job titles or degrees.
* **Steps to identify your transferable skills**:
  1. Reflect on life experiences (jobs, school, volunteering, hobbies, etc.).
  2. Identify the skills developed in each situation (e.g., planning, communication, leadership).
  3. Connect those skills to job roles that value them.
* **Examples**:
  1. An executive assistant’s scheduling and communication skills transfer well to project management.
  2. A teacher’s leadership and presentation skills are valuable in public relations.
  3. Military service or team sports build collaboration and adaptability—skills vital in many industries.
* You likely already have a solid foundation of skills—recognizing and framing them is key to succeeding in your job search.
* **Transferable skills** are abilities gained in one setting that can be applied across different jobs or industries.
* Mike, a Product Lead at Google and former teacher, illustrates how classroom skills like **prioritization, time management, communication, and adaptability** translate into leadership roles.
* **Top 4 transferable skills valued by employers**:
  1. **Navigating ambiguity** – being flexible and effective in uncertain or changing situations.
  2. **Emotional regulation** – maintaining composure, self-awareness, and being supportive under pressure.
  3. **Communication** – adapting your message clearly and effectively to different audiences.
  4. **Problem-solving** – approaching and resolving complex, people-based or technical issues constructively.
* Emphasizing these skills in interviews or resumes helps show your **holistic value as a team member**.
* Teams benefit from **diverse skill sets**, much like using all the colors in a box of markers creates a richer, more complete picture.
* Your **unique experiences and transferable skills** elevate a team’s capabilities and contribute in meaningful, distinctive ways.