OWNERSHIP OF LEARNING

LESSON 7-1 ▲ WHERE AM I GOING IN 7TH GRADE?

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Review the key elements of the Career Guidance Washington curriculum for 7th Grade.
* Analyze prior year goal achievements to determine new skills and challenges.
* Create at least five academic and/or activity goals for the 7th grade.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Grade 7 Career Guidance Washington Outline and Themes
* Individual Road Map
* **Class Road Map Poster –** a large poster that will host 90+ sticky notes.
* **Post-it sticky notes**

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Students are welcomed to 7th Career Guidance WA lessons.** Welcome students to 7th Grade! Remind them that success in middle school is a direct result of their involvement in classes and school activities. Also remind students of the two commitments they made in 6th Grade Career Guidance lessons – to “take charge of your future”, and to become “high school ready” by the end of 8th grade.
2. **Students rate the quality of their 6th grade year.** Tell students they are going to move to one of four corners of the room, in response to some questions you are going to ask about their 6th grade year. Each corner is given a value on a scale from 1 to 4. 1 is defined as terrible, 4 defined as stupendous, 3 is pretty good, 2 is okay. Students move to the assigned corner representing their answer to various questions. When students arrive to their location, they talk with their group about why they chose that rating. Students will record their answers as they move around the room so it can be brought back to build timeline on a sheet of paper.

***Ask the following questions:***

* How do you feel generally about your 6th grade school year?
* How do you rate your level of academic success in 6th grade?
* How do you rate your participation in school or community activities in 6th grade?
* How would your family describe your 6thgrade year?
* How successfully did you take charge of your future in 6th grade?

1. **Students are introduced to the lesson topic for today.** Inform students that 7th grade is a fresh new year. Students who had a successful 6th grade are wise to notice what they did well and keep it up! Students seeking improvement are wise to do some things differently to become high school ready by the end of 8th grade. Follow up on the introduction of the High School & Beyond Plan, a high school graduation requirement, from 6th grade. (A template can be found in lesson 12-9 to see what’s ahead for their future.)

Provide each student with a copy of *7th Grade Career Guidance Washington Outline and Themes.* Review the eight Career Guidance Washington themes and 29 lessons students may experience in 7th grade. Also review the materials each student will utilize during student-led conferences and remind them that these materials make up key parts of their student-led conference. Let students know when your conferences will be this year

1. **Students are introduced to the concept of ‘school as a journey’.** Tell students about Penny Loafer, who started 6th grade with five goals: (a) to raise her math grade from a C to a B average, (b) to make the honor roll at least once, (c) to complete all homework in-school or after-school every day, (d) to make the 6th grade basketball team, and (e) to learn how to play guitar. Mid-way on her path to the end of 6th grade, Penny recognized that she had not accomplished any of her goals, had failed to make the basketball team, and was using her personal issues as reasons for her average performance in school. She adjusted her focus and use of time, and by the end of the year had accomplished the other four goals. Her journey was unfocused in the early part of the year, but she regards 6th grade as a success, thanks to her work in the second half of the year.

Ask students if any of them had a 6th grade journey like Penny, achieving some but not all of your goals. Ask if any are willing to tell how their journey went towards their goals last year. Encourage students to see school as a journey and themselves as responsible for making it an enjoyable one.

1. **Students plan their journey through 7th grade.** The Road Map Poster should be posted at the front of the classroom. Tell students that 7th grade is a new journey with an unwritten road yet to be travelled. Now is the time to begin thinking about what they want their 7th grade path to look like. Ask students to partner with one other person. Provide each student with three sticky notes. Partners discuss each question and then each creates a personal goal related to the question and writes it on one of their sticky notes.

***Ask students to discuss and create a sticky note goal for each of the following:***

* Name one academic, course-related, or grade-related goal you have for 7th grade.
* Name one in-school or community-based activity goal you have for 7th grade.
* Name one goal you have that involves friends or family in 7th grade.

Each time a pair of students complete a goal, ask them to post their sticky note on the class road map.

1. **Students analyze the 7th grade goals of their class**. Once all students have three sticky notes on the road map, ask students to get up and read all the goals of this class. Ask them to take their notebook and look for common themes in the goals that students have set. Encourage them to ‘steal’ goal ideas for their own 7th grade year. After adequate time, ask students to return to their seats and lead a class discussion on trends in 7th grade goal setting.
2. **Students develop an individual student road map**. Distribute the *Individual Road Map* to each student. Ask them to write five individual road map 7th grade goals on the handout. Two goals should be academic in nature, two should be activity-based, and the fifth can be academic, activity-based, or family/friend-oriented. Tell students to keep their *Individual Road Map* to be reviewed at conference time.
3. **Students project how they will feel at the end of 7th grade.** Repeat the activity you offered in the beginning of this lesson, only this time, focus on 7th grade. Ask students the same questions, and have them go to the corners of the room that represent what would like to be able to say at the end of 7th grade.

* How will you feel generally about your 7th grade school year?
* How will you rate your level of academic success in 7th grade?
* How will you rate your participation in school or community activities in 7th grade?
* How will your family describe your 7thgrade year?
* How successfully will you take charge of your future in 7th grade?

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Individual Road Map***

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LESSON 7-1 STUDENT HANDOUT

7TH GRADE CAREER GUIDANCE LESSON OUTLINE & THEMES

**OUTLINE**

1. Where Am I Going in 7th Grade?
2. Personal Interests
3. Personal Skills
4. Knowing Yourself: What Are Your Strengths and Interests?
5. Time Management
6. Managing Multiple Choice Questions
7. Asking for Help
8. High School Courses
9. My Story
10. After-Graduation Path
11. Academic Progress Review
12. College Bound Scholarship
13. Keeping Your Options Open
14. Preparing for High School
15. Future Possibilities
16. “You Don’t Say” Career Game
17. Occupations Scavenger Hunt
18. Preparing for Student-led Conferences I
19. Preparing for Student-led Conferences II
20. Student-led Conferences – How Did I Do?
21. Banking and Personal Credit
22. GET College Savings
23. Note-taking Skills for Lecture
24. Conflict
25. Summer Plans and Projects
26. Green Jobs
27. School Connections to Work and Career
28. Doors to College
29. Career and Technical Options

**THEMES**

*Career Guidance Washington addresses 8 themes important to a college and career ready student. Discuss with the class what these themes might mean/represent.*

1. Career and College Development
2. Ownership of Learning
3. Transition Skills
4. Learning Techniques
5. Metacognitive Skills
6. Academic Eligibility
7. High School and Beyond Plan
8. Financial Literacy

**QUESTION**

*What makes a student college and career ready?*

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LESSON 7-1 STUDENT HANDOUT

INDIVIDUAL ROAD MAP

Below is a road map for your 7th grade school year. On your road map, write five 7th grade goals for a successful year. What would you accomplish that would make you feel great?