

Unit #1 Title: Successful Students!	
Lesson Title: Dear Sassy Successful Student	Lesson: 1 of 2
Grade Level: 5	
Length of Lesson: 30-40 min.	
Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Standard: AD.4: Applying Skills Needed for Educational Achievement	
Grade Level Expectation (GLE): AD.4.A.05.a.i: Demonstrate study skills and test taking strategies to enhance academic achievement.	
American School Counselor Association National Standard (ASCA): Academic Development A: Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills contributing to effective learning in school and across the lifespan.	

Materials (include activity sheets and/ or supporting resources)

Dear Sassy Successful Student letters—attached Self-Assessment--attached

Show Me Standards: Performance Goals (check one or more that apply and identify relevant process standards)

X	Goal 1: Gather, analyze and apply information and ideas 1. Develop questions and ideas to initiate and refine research. 6. Discover and evaluate patterns and relationships in information, ideas and structure. 8. Organize data, information and ideas into useful forms.
X	Goal 2: Communicate effectively within and beyond the classroom 3. Exchange information, questions and ideas while recognizing the perspectives of others.
X	Goal 3: Recognize and solve problems 1. Identify problems and define their scope and elements. 3. Develop and apply strategies based on ways others have prevented or solved problems. 7. Evaluate the extent to which a strategy addresses the problem.
X	Goal 4: Make decisions and act as responsible members of society 1. Explain reasoning and identify information used to support decisions. 5. Develop, monitor and revise plans of action to meet deadlines and accomplish goals.

This lesson supports the development of skills in the following academic content areas.

Academic Content Area(s)	Specific Skill(s)
X Communication Arts	6. Participating in formal and informal presentations and discussions of issues and ideas.
Mathematics	
X Social Studies	7. The use of tools of social science inquiry.
Science	
X Health/Physical Education	2. Principles and practices of physical and mental health.
Fine Arts	

Enduring Life Skill(s)

X	Perseverance	X	Integrity	X	Problem Solving
	Courage		Compassion		Tolerance
	Respect	X	Goal Setting		

Lesson Assessment (acceptable evidence):

Assessment should relate to the performance outcome for goals, objectives and GLE's. Assessment can be question answer, performance activity, etc.

Students will self-assess their ability to utilize study and test taking skills via a written inventory.

Lesson Preparation

Essential Questions: Who's responsible for your success?
 How are your current study skills/test taking strategies/time management/organizational techniques working for you?
 How can one improve in the use of these skills to be a successful student?

Engagement (Hook):
 How many of you have heard of: Dear Abby, Ann Landers, Dr. Phil, Shalom in the Home?
 What do all of these people have in common or do in common?

Procedures

Instructor Procedures:	Student Involvement:
1. Counselor lists responses to engagement question from students, leading to the fact that these people all give advice.	1. Students participate by suggesting answers to questions.
2. Counselor divides class into groups of 3 or 4. Each group is given a request for advice letter.	2. Students listen/participate.
3. Counselor tells the class that each group has two tasks: 1) to come up with helpful	3. Students work in small groups on assigned tasks. Student groups make presentations.

NAME _____

DATE _____

STUDY/TEST TAKING STRATEGIES INVENTORY

Directions: Answer the questions truthfully by placing a checkmark in the appropriate column.

	Always	Sometimes	Never	Change?
I am an active listener and class participant.				
I use clues from other questions to help me answer harder questions.				
I keep an assignment notebook for homework.				
I choose a regular time to study.				
I have the materials I need before I start.				
I prepare for a test at least a few days before I take it.				
I review for tests by quizzing myself and asking others to quiz me.				
I do the easiest questions first.				
I work steadily without daydreaming.				
I take necessary breaks.				
I get a good night's rest before a test.				
I start my assignments quickly.				
I complete and hand in my assignments on time.				
I use memory cues to learn facts for a test.				
I check over papers or tests for errors.				
I eat a good breakfast on test day.				
I skim through a chapter of a book before I read and study it.				
I carefully read all of the choices before answering a multiple-choice question.				
I take notes.				
I read all of the directions before starting the test.				
I ask the teacher for help if I don't understand.				
I make sure I answer all parts of every question.				
I write neatly and accurately.				
I always make sure to write my name on my paper first!				

Dear Sassy,

My teacher gives my class lots of essay and constructed response questions that have lots of parts. I never do very well on these questions. I always miss something. What are some things that I can do to answer these questions better?

Signed,
Missing Parts

Dear Sassy,

My teacher has multiple-choice questions that I have to answer. I always get confused with the choices. There always seems to be at least two good answers. Is there an easy way to figure out the answer?

Signed,
Confused

Dear Sassy,

I never do very well on true/false questions. Do you have any tips so I can do better? I always question my first choice, and it scares me.

Signed,
Scared of T/F

Dear Sassy,

I never feel prepared for a test, even though I studied the night before. What can I do to feel better prepared for the test?

Signed,
Feeling Unprepared

Dear Sassy,

I go home after school and try to do my homework. Even though I start my homework as soon as I get home, it still takes me until after supper to be finished. My friends say they get their homework done in an hour. What can I do differently?

Signed,

Forever With Homework

Dear Sassy,

When I try to complete my classroom assignments, I always get confused as to what I'm supposed to do. How can I do better remembering what the teacher told me to do?

Signed,

Forgetful

Dear Sassy,

I want to be a good student but no matter how hard I try, I still cannot get good grades. What are some things I can do to become a better student?

Signed,

Striving for Success