

WHAT IS AHEAD?

Purpose: This lesson provides seniors with an opportunity to identify areas of concern involving post-graduation plans. Students complete a self-assessment of personal concerns and have an opportunity to talk with graduates.

Time Required for Lesson: Two 50-minute sessions

Grade Level: 11

Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Strand: Academic Development

Big Idea: AD.4: Applying skills needed for educational achievement.

Concept: AD.4.A. Lifelong learning

ASCA Standards: Academic Development

A. Students will acquire the attitudes, knowledge and skills contributing to effective learning in school and across a lifespan.

Materials: *What is Ahead—Self-Assessment* student activity sheet

Comprehensive Guidance Program Curriculum Unit/Lesson links

Grade 11

Unit: Learning for Life

Concept: AD.4. A.



Show Me Standards: Performance Goals (check one or more that apply)

X	Goal 1: gather, analyze and apply information and ideas 8. Organize data, information and ideas into useful forms (including charts, graphs, outlines) for analysis or presentation
X	Goal 2: communicate effectively within and beyond the classroom
X	Goal 3: recognize and solve problems 3. Develop and apply strategies based on one's own experience in preventing or solving problems
X	Goal 4: make decisions and act as responsible members of society

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

Academic Content Area(s)

Specific Skill(s)

X	Communication Arts	1. Speaking and writing standard English (including grammar, usage, punctuation, spelling, capitalization) 6. Participating in formal and informal presentations and discussions of issues and ideas
	Mathematics	
X	Social Studies	6. Relationships of the individual and groups to institutions and cultural traditions.
	Science	
	Health/Physical Education	
	Fine Arts	

Enduring Life Skill(s)

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

Lesson Assessment acceptable evidence of what learners will know and be able to do as a result of this lesson:

Students complete a self-assessment of concerns.

Lesson Preparation

Essential Questions: What do we do next? What happens after high school?

Engagement (Hook): Have students imagine graduation as a closed door and participation in the graduation ceremony as an open door. Ask: When the door is opened what will you find?

Procedures

<i>Professional School Counselor Procedures:</i>	<i>Student Involvement:</i>
1. Prior to the sessions, arrange for recent graduates to visit to answer students' questions	1. N/A
Session I	
2. Explain to students how life after graduation can be confusing or intimidating. Discuss how things will be different after graduation. Ask student to think about and share what concerns them the most.	2. Students listen and share thoughts on their concerns and how things will be different after graduation
3. Explain to students that in the next session, recent graduates will visit to answer their questions and concerns. Distribute and ask students to complete the "What is Ahead? Self-Assessment"	3. Students complete the "What is Ahead?" activity sheet
4. Before the next session, summarize and send the results of the activity sheet to members of the recent graduate panel	4. N/A
Session II	
5. Introduce the visiting graduates	5. N/A
6. Ask each panel member to discuss his or her current situation and explain how he or she made his or her post-graduation plans	6. Student listen and welcome panel members
7. Review the results of the activity sheet. Ask students to discuss a personal concern from their surveys	7. Students discuss a personal concern from their survey with panel members
8. Allow time for general questions and answers.	8. Students participate in question and answer session with panel members.

“What is Ahead?” Self-Assessment

Name _____ Date _____

Directions:

- In column 1, check the items you would like to discuss with graduates.
- In column 2, check the items you know something about or know someone who does.
- In column 3, check items with which you have had experience and are willing to share your expertise with class during discussion.

Discussion Items	1	2	3
Getting a job			
Obtaining recommendations and references			
Choosing a vocational-technical school			
Using employment agencies			
Writing and using resumes			
Knowing what to find out about a job			
Interviewing skills			
Avoiding pitfalls			
Selecting doctors and dentists			
Choosing a field of study			
Creating a budget			
Choosing a college			
Leaving home for the first time			
Adjusting to living at home and commuting			
Finding new friends			
Anticipating personal expenses			
Managing time			
Knowing how to get help with school problem			
Living at home after graduation			
Paying rent			
Understanding family responsibilities			
Paying for utilities			
Anticipating food costs			
Making a roommate choice			
Having a new social life			
Determining costs of living			
Paying taxes			
Relationships			
Arranging for transportation			
Financing continuing education			
Buying insurance			
Reserving money for entertainment			
Making consumer savings			
Other			