

D2. Educating Myself Benefits Others



Introduction

This lesson will help students and families learn about the impact of education beyond the individual.

Learning Goals

- Students will learn how the community benefits from higher education.
- Students will explore how important they are to the community and global society beyond their families.
- Students will be empowered to engage in both their education and community.

Materials Needed

- Preview Activity Handout: *How Can My Education Benefit My Family and/or Community?*
- Lesson Handouts: *I Believe in Myself... No Matter What*
- Reflection Activity Handout: *When I Become a _____, I Will Benefit the World*

Preview Activity

This activity should be given 1-2 days prior to the in-class lesson. Explain to students that they will start a new lesson that requires them to gather information from their home or community and bring it to the classroom. (See handout.)

1. Distribute *How Can My Education Benefit My Family and/or Community?* and explain instructions to students.
2. As you begin the in-class lesson, have students share (as individuals or within small groups) what they discussed and learned in the Preview Activity.
3. You may wish to add value by collecting ideas generated and distributing them to students as a resource.

Activities

PART 1: EDUCATING MYSELF BENEFITS OTHERS (10 MINUTES)

1. Discuss and review the Preview Activity.

PART 2: I BELIEVE IN MYSELF ... NO MATTER WHAT (35 MINUTES)

1. Give students the *I Believe in Myself... No Matter What* handout.
2. Have the students break into small groups of 3-5 and go over the instructions to make sure they understand the assignment.
3. Before they actually start the assignment, talk about the possibility that not everyone in their lives will always support their dreams. Explain to them that it is very important to learn how to talk to people about their dreams, goals and ideas. Although they may receive negative messages about their dreams, they should not get discouraged.
4. Collect the handouts and summarize the information for students. Allow students to share any new or exciting information they have learned. Compile the information into a handout.
5. Reintroduce the importance of the benefits of college. You might want to use the *Why College?* handout from Lesson D1 to help refresh the conversation.
6. Have students brainstorm what is lacking in the world and in their community and have them write their ideas on sticky notes. Once they identify needs, walk them through some possible solutions so that they understand that college gives people social capital. For example, they could improve health care in their family and community by going to college and becoming a nurse or a doctor.
7. When you are done with the discussion, have students put their sticky notes on the board and allow students to view the responses of their fellow students.

Reflection Activity

1. Thank students for their participation in the lesson and talk about how important it is for them to share their dreams, goals and ideas with significant people in their lives.
2. Explain to students that this activity will allow them to share the information they explored at school with their copilot. In addition, the assignment will allow them to reflect on the topic a bit further.
3. Distribute *When I Become a _____, I Will Benefit the World* and explain the instructions to students.

References and Resources

- Easley, Michael F. Look Out College, Here I Come! Washington, D.C.: National Education Association, 2007.
- <http://www.nea.org>
- <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/05/29/AR2007052900482.html>
- http://www.collegeboard.com/prod_downloads/about/news_info/trends/ed_pays_2007.pdf

Curriculum Standards

- Standards for the English/Language Arts: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12
- National Standards for Social Studies Teachers:
 - Culture
 - Time, Continuity and Change
 - People, Places and Environments
 - Individual Development and Identity
 - Individuals, Groups and Institutions
- National Educational Technology Standards for Students: 3

See Appendix 3 for complete curriculum standards descriptions.