

G2. Student Education Pledge



Introduction

This lesson provides a culmination to the curriculum by enabling students to focus on their responsibility to themselves. In this lesson, students will complete a *Student Education Pledge* in which they state why education is important to them and what it is they pledge to do in order to be the best student possible. You may want to prepare an education pledge of your own as a model for students.

Learning Goals

- Students will reflect upon important lessons presented in the curriculum.
- Students will explore the importance of maintaining responsibility to themselves.
- Students will complete their own *Student Education Pledge* and prepare it for display.

Materials Needed

- Lesson Handouts: *My Strengths and Areas in Need of Improvement*, *Student Education Pledge*
- Supplies: Scissors, glue, 8x10 colored paper

Activities

1. Share with students that throughout the curriculum they have:
 - Identified individuals and resources that will help them
 - Visualized the road to their future
 - Identified what they need to do to stay on the right path
 - Explored the benefits of college
 - Identified the student they are and hope to become
 - Imagined the challenges and transitions they will make and how to make good decisions
2. Explain that while all these lessons are important, one of the most important lessons is that they each have a responsibility to themselves.
3. Through classroom discussion, ask students why “responsibility to self” is an important lesson to remember.
4. Tell students that they will create a personal pledge to pursue their educational goals.

5. Share your own pledge (e.g., could be your pledge to be a great teacher, to help students or to continue your own education).
6. Inform students that, in preparation to create their own pledge, they will think about their strengths and areas that need improvement as students. Distribute *My Strengths and Areas in Need of Improvement* and read the instructions.
7. Through classroom discussion, brainstorm examples of possible answers to the two questions on the pledge.
8. Distribute the *Student Education Pledge* handout and read the instructions.
9. Allow students time to complete their handout.
10. Ask students to cut out the pledge and paste it onto a piece of colored paper for display.
11. Allow some or all students to share their pledges with the class.

Curriculum Standards

- Standards for the English/Language Arts: 3, 4, 5, 12
- National Standards for Social Studies Teachers:
 - Time, Continuity and Change

See Appendix 3 for complete curriculum standards descriptions.