

# A3. What Does Success Mean to Me?



## Introduction

This lesson allows students to begin the process of understanding what success means to them. It also helps students realize that being around peers and supportive adults will help them achieve success.

## Learning Goals

- Students will learn that success is self-defined and attainable with hard work.

## Materials Needed

- Supplies: Chart paper
- Lesson Handout: *What Does Success Mean to Me?*

## Activities

### PART 1: EXPLORING AND DEFINING SUCCESS (30 MINUTES)

1. Explain to students that they are starting a lesson about how they can create and meet educational goals to achieve success. Before beginning, the class will explore what it means to be successful.
2. Lead a Word Wall activity. Ask students, “What is success?” or “How do you picture yourself when you are successful?” As they respond, write the answers on a piece of chart paper on the wall. Continue to prompt students with ideas, including going to college, getting a good job, finding happiness, starting a family, majoring in an interesting subject, earning good grades (in high school and/or college), being a doctor, or being a firefighter. Anything the students say is correct.
3. After the Word Wall is generated, thank students for their openness and sharing. Acknowledge that there are many different answers or definitions of success. Affirm for students that there are no right or wrong answers. Ultimately, individuals define their own success.
4. Distribute the *What Does Success Mean to Me?* handout and have students complete it by selecting three to four ideas from the list.
5. As you use the word *success* throughout the lesson, refer back to the Word Wall and continue to remind students that success can be a number of different things.

## Curriculum Standards

- Standards for the English/Language Arts: 4, 5, 7, 11, 12
- National Standards for Social Studies Teachers:
  - Culture
  - Individual Development and Identity

See Appendix 3 for complete curriculum standards descriptions.