



Define
Your Own
Road in Life

Planning for Higher Ed

ACTIVITY GUIDE

Let's explore how the videos, lessons, and resources on "Planning for Higher Ed" can apply to your own life and career goals!

STUDENTS & CAREER EXPLORERS

Students & Career Explorers: Navigate to each corresponding section of the "Planning for Higher Ed" website (*highlighted in green*) and follow the directions below.

EDUCATORS

Use the "Discuss" prompts (*highlighted in blue*) to facilitate deeper discussions!



What Kinds of Careers Are Out There?

SECTION 1: EXPLORE CAREERS IN—AND MADE POSSIBLE BY—HIGHER EDUCATION

EXPLORE

Watch each video in this section until you find a career that stands out to you.

It can be a job you already know about, or one you've never heard of.

If you *don't* connect with any of the careers featured in this section, think about your own interests, skills, and goals—what kinds of careers match the things you like to do, or are good at? If you're not sure what kinds of careers align to your interests, you can use the internet to do some research.

MY CAREER/JOB GOAL:

DISCUSS

Break into small groups to talk about the careers selected.

Take turns sharing which career was chosen and why. How does this career align with each individual's interests and goals?

SECTION TWO: HEAR STORIES FROM PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN IN YOUR SHOES

When you start thinking about your future, it can be overwhelming. That's why it's helpful to hear career stories and advice from others—and remember that even the most successful people were once in your shoes.

EXPLORE

Click on a person that you want to learn more about.

Read their profile, and brainstorm what your future road might look like in the spaces below.

MAJOR MILESTONES THAT I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH:

HURDLES/CHALLENGES I MIGHT ENCOUNTER ALONG THE WAY:

IF YOU COULD TALK TO *ANYONE* IN THE WORLD ABOUT OVERCOMING CHALLENGES, WHO WOULD YOU WANT TO TALK TO?

DISCUSS

Have everyone share who they'd want to talk to about overcoming challenges. No one needs to share personal challenges, if they don't want to—but having students talk about the people they find inspirational can help you better understand their goals, and the people who could support them along their paths.

SECTION 3: TAKE THE NEXT STEP ON YOUR CAREER PATH

EXPLORE

Click on a few of the videos in the “What’s possible through higher education?” playlist, watch, and then answer the questions below.

WHY DO YOU THINK A COLLEGE DEGREE WOULD BE VALUABLE, IN TERMS OF YOUR GOALS AND DREAMS FOR YOUR FUTURE?

WHAT MAKES YOU EXCITED ABOUT POSSIBLY ATTENDING COLLEGE?

WHAT MAKES YOU NERVOUS ABOUT APPLYING FOR OR ATTENDING COLLEGE?

DISCUSS

Break into small teams to discuss these questions: How would everyone define the **value** of higher education? Do they feel like it’s changed or shifted over their lifetime? What could colleges do to provide more value to students?



What Can Help Me Reach My Goals?

SECTION 4: RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR HIGHER ED

How do you decide which education path or school could be right for you? And how do you get the resources you need to make your path possible?

EXPLORE

Check out the resources offered to help you research and evaluate different paths within higher ed.

**WHICH RESOURCE DID YOU FIND
TO BE MOST USEFUL?**

**WHAT KINDS OF EDUCATION OR
TRAINING MIGHT YOU NEED TO
REACH YOUR CAREER GOAL?**

DISCUSS

Share which resource you reviewed and how it could help you reach your career goal. Talk through some different options for education and training. If you're aware of local schools or training programs that can help others reach their goals, share them! Getting specific—and helping others see local options—will help learners realistically imagine themselves taking that career path.



**ROADTRIP
NATION**

My Future Road

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Imagine that you're creating your own career story! Use your answers above to start imagining and planning what your future path might look like. Add in some advice that you might give to others with the same career goal to help them be successful.

MY INTERESTS

_____ & _____

MY CAREER GOAL

MY MILESTONES

MY CHALLENGES/HURDLES

MY EDUCATION/TRAINING

MY ADVICE TO OTHERS

ONE RESOURCE OR TOOL I RECOMMEND TO OTHERS ON THE SAME CAREER PATH
