

# 11A.1.1: Get Inspired

## UNIT OVERVIEW

In this phase, students will (re)connect with their mentors in order to start the year off strong. Mentees and mentors will know the expectations and goals for the year and will be able to use those as a base to which to come back to and strengthen their bond.



## LESSON OBJECTIVE

Students will create motivational statements for their post-secondary search process.

## PURPOSE

This lesson reintroduces the program's goals and structure, and builds excitement and buy-in for the post-secondary process. Students will build motivation for the challenging tasks ahead and reconnect with their mentor. Mentors will establish their role in helping their mentee by previewing major milestones in the upcoming year and setting goals for their mentee's success.

## AGENDA

5 min	Do Now: <i>My Inspiration</i>
25 min	Learn & Engage <i>Finding Inspiration</i>
10 min	Mentor Connection



## KEY TAKEAWAY

Learning from other people's stories of success can help me overcome obstacles I encounter.

## PM NOTES

It is important to establish and practice a tech ritual in this first unit. Consider practicing at the beginning or end of class.

**MATERIALS:** 1.1 Handout, 1.1 Presentation

<h2>Do Now: My Inspiration</h2> <p>Students will write about someone in their personal life that they find inspirational.</p>		Notes:
<p>Slide 2: 5 min</p>	<p><b>TALKING POINTS</b></p> <p>Respond to the following on your worksheet:</p> <p>Who is someone you know that has succeeded in their college and/or career goals? What steps did they take to succeed? (this could be a family member, teacher, coach, etc).</p>	

<h2>Learn and Engage: Finding Inspiration</h2> <p>In this activity, students will read inspirational stories of students who have achieved success after overcoming significant obstacles and following different post-secondary pathways. This will help students internalize the inspiration and build motivation for the post-secondary preparation process ahead.</p>		Notes:
<p>Slide 3: 1 min</p>	<p><i>Have a student read the key takeaway</i></p>	
<p>Slide 4: 6 min</p>	<p><b>TALKING POINTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You have done a lot of work both in and out of the program to learn about and develop yourself, your interests, and your skills.</li> <li>This year, you will take what you have learned to guide your post-secondary planning.</li> <li>Though this process can seem overwhelming at times, post-secondary success is well within your reach.</li> <li>Today, we are going to read stories of people who have gone through this process, faced serious challenges, and succeeded.</li> <li>Hearing the stories of others can inspire us to overcome challenges we face in our own journeys.</li> </ul> <p><i>As a class, read the first story on the handout.</i></p>	
<p>Slide 5: 3 min</p>	<p><b>TALKING POINTS</b></p> <p>Whether you decide to go to college, join the military, pursue a vocational/certification program or engage in a volunteering</p>	

	<p>service after you graduate, we want to make sure you are aware of all of your options and can apply to all that interest you.</p> <p>As a reminder, all students in this class are required to apply to college.</p> <p>We believe in your right to choose your path but we do not want you to close the door to college until you have really explored it along with all of your other options.</p>	
<p>Slide 6: 10 min</p> <p>5 min</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITY</b></p> <p>Organize students into pairs. Assign each pair to read one of the remaining three stories from the handout. Direct pairs to write one sentence summarizing the key message someone should take from the story they read.</p> <p><b>CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING</b></p> <p>Invite volunteers to share the story they read with the class.</p>	
<p>Slide 7: Mentor Connection</p>	<p><b>TALKING POINTS</b></p> <p>Now let's write to our mentors.</p>	



## Mentor Connection

### MENTEE PROMPT

1) What has been the highlight of your summer?

*The highlight of my summer has been...*

2) What is one thing you are looking forward to this year?

*I am looking forward to...*



# Mentee Connection

## **OVERVIEW**

This is the first lesson of the year! You may have not spoken to your mentee in a while, this is your chance to reconnect.

In class, students found inspiration for the year by reading short stories of individuals who succeeded in spite of tremendous challenges. This reinforced the value of perseverance and provided students with models of success that either resonated with their own challenges, or placed their challenges in perspective.

## **IN YOUR RESPONSE:**

- 1) Share an update of how your summer has gone. What has been your highlight of the summer?**
- 2) Share one obstacle that you overcame during your post-secondary journey.**