

11B 3.7 Post-Secondary Research – Week 1

PHASE OVERVIEW

Pairs will identify the key components of match and fit so that they can research and select post-secondary pathways that are strong options for the mentee. An emphasis will be placed on academic match to ensure that students are not under-matching. Pairs will work together to create a list of 5-10 post-secondary options.



LESSON OBJECTIVE

Students will research safety, target, and reach schools for their post-secondary list.

PURPOSE

Even for students who are interested in non-college, post-secondary pathways, the process of researching colleges is a good exercise but more importantly keeps students' options open. All students should have 6 colleges on their post-secondary list by the end of 11th grade to be prepared for senior year applications. This lesson will grant students research time to prepare their list.

AGENDA

5 min	<i>Do Now: Mentor Response</i>
27 min	<i>Research Work Time</i>
8 min	<i>Mentor Connection</i>



KEY TAKEAWAY

Creating a list of post-secondary options will help prepare me for my senior year applications.

FACILITATOR NOTES:

You should stress that students will not be completing the entirety of their research during this time. Students must be regularly meeting with their mentor to stay on top of their research.

If students were absent from the previous lesson or need support with how to research schools, you can direct them to the 3.6 video located on this week's Platform lesson.

There is an optional handout that students can use to track their schools as they complete their research.

MATERIALS: [3.7 Handout](#), [3.7 PowerPoint](#), [Very Selective Schools Guide](#), students must be able to access <https://collegesearch.collegeboard.org/home>

Do Now: Mentor Response		Notes:
Students will log into the Platform.		
Slide 2: 5 min	TALKING POINTS Please log into your Platform account. Read your mentor's message and respond. Then, share 1 high and 1 low of this week.	

Learn and Engage: Research Work Time		Notes
Students will research college options.		
Slide 3: 1 min	<i>Have a student read the key takeaway:</i> Creating a list of post-secondary options will help prepare me for my senior year applications.	
Slide 4: 1 min	TALKING POINTS You will have the opportunity to research all pathways in this class. We will first focus on college research. Next class, we will focus on pro-pathways.	
Slide 5: 1 min	TALKING POINTS For your college research, you will be using two resources. We were introduced to one last week: Big Future. If your GPA is above a 83, you can also use the "very selective schools" guide to find 2 reach schools that give out amazing financial aid. This guide is located on this week's platform lesson.	
Slide 6-8: 5 min	TALKING POINTS As we find schools that are strong fits, we want to make sure that we are keeping track of this information. Luckily the Platform can help with this. Let's review how to add school's onto our Platform account. Your mentor will also be able to see this list. <i>Use the slides to review the tools.</i>	

Slide 9: 15 min	TALKING POINTS Now we will launch into work time. Please: Find 2 safety, 2 target and 2 reach schools using Big Future. If your GPA is over an 83 (3.0), you can use the highly selective schools guide to find your 2 reaches. Use the worksheet to jot down notes/make sure that the school meets your fit factors Add the schools you want to apply to onto the Platform.	
Slide 10: 4 min	Work Time Debrief <i>Which school are you excited to apply to? Why?</i>	
Slide 11: Mentor Connection	TALKING POINTS Let's write to our mentors!	
Slide 12: Extend	<i>If you have additional time remaining, consider asking students what new information they have learned from their mentor's message.</i>	



Mentor Connection

Which school(s) did you research today? What excites you about these options?

I researched ...

I am excited because ...

Big Future Website -

<https://collegesearch.collegeboard.org/home>

If your GPA is above an 83 (3.0), use the guide below to find 2 reach schools to add to your list.

[Very Selective Schools Guide](#)



Mentee Connection

Overview:

This week in class, students continued their post-secondary research. Students used the College Board's Big Future tool to research colleges. As a reminder, students need 2 safety, 2 target and 2 reach schools on their post-secondary list.

If students have a GPA of 83+ (3.0+), pairs should be using the [Very Selective Schools Guide](#) to identify two reach schools. The schools on this guide offer amazing financial aid to students but are also incredibly difficult to get into. We are norming that these are reach schools for ALL students.

Your mentee should be adding their schools onto the Platform. [Click here to learn how to access your mentee's post-secondary list on the Platform.](#)

In your response to your mentee:

- 1) Please share your high point and low point for the week.
- 2) Provide feedback on the schools your mentee added to their post-secondary list. Share why the school(s) may or may not be a good fit for your mentee.
- 3) If your mentee has not been able to research any schools, offer to set up time to meet with your mentee and complete the assignment.