



LEARNING ACTIVITY – Postsecondary Beach Ball

Topic

Career Exploration & Awareness

Type of Activity (Virtual/In-person)

In Person

Recommended Grade Level(s)

6,7,8

Time Needed

30 minutes

Group Size

Min of 4 students-Max 20

Materials Needed

- Beach Ball
- Sharpie
- Questions to write on beach ball

Social Emotional Skill(s) to Integrate

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision-Making

Space Needed (if in-person)

Classroom space, conference room or outside space if weather permitting.

Description of Activity

This activity is geared towards students gaining a deeper understanding of themselves and post-high school planning. Questions are written on an inflated beach ball. Students answer questions and ponder next steps.

Students will understand...

When you choose a job and career based on your interests, values, abilities, and strengths, you are more likely to find success and satisfaction in that job and career.

Students will be able to...

Identify values, interests, personalities, and abilities.

Preparations

- Blow up the beach ball and then section it into 12 sections.
- In each section write a question based on your topic. Some sample questions include:
 - Name two careers you think would be interesting to do and tell why.
 - What are you looking forward to this summer?
 - Something that you are good at is....
 - When you are not at school, you like to...
 - Something you value in your future is...
 - If you could be any mythological creature, what would you be?
 - Would you rather work at a desk or outside?
 - Something that would be interesting to know more about is...
 - Would you rather be a carpenter or edit novels?
 - Would you rather solve food shortage issues or create marketing videos for large companies?
 - When you have a school project, do you prefer working independently or part of a team? Why?
 - If you could go on an all-expense paid vacation anywhere, where would you go?

Tags: #ms, #678, #in-person, #careerexp, #careeraware

Citations: Chelsea Martin

Instructions

1. Introduce the activity to your students as an activity to learn about or review (insert topic).
2. Students will stand in a circle and pass the ball to one another.
3. The student catching the ball, should look at where their thumbs are on the ball and choose one of those questions to answer.
4. The educator can start and model how to answer the questions.

Reflection Activity, Questions, Discussion Prompts

After the activity discuss the following questions:

- Which question was hardest for you to answer?
- What is a question that SHOULD be on the beach ball?

Variations for this Activity

This is a great activity because it can easily be customized to fit whatever topic you are working on or reviewing: financial aid, student skills, academic achievement. Tons of variations for this activity! If you find an oversized beach ball, you can add up to 15-18 questions.

- Study Skill Question Ex: Where do you study best? (Home, library, at school). How do you like to study? (Flashcards, etc).
- Financial Aid: What does the FAFSA stand for? What is an example of free money that you can earn? What is a grant?
- College Info: Why is your GPA important when applying to college? Do all colleges require the SATs/ACTs?
- Add fun questions mixed in- what are you looking forward to this summer? If you could be any mythological creature, what would you be?