

Academic Success Skills Lesson Plan (Day #1)

Primary Objective	Each student will understand that as educators, We want you to succeed!
Secondary Objective	Each student will understand the importance of good attendance and good grades
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Video (download ahead of time, just in case) ○ Audio/visual setup ○ Funny money (if desired) ○ Whiteboard or screen for writing numbers and discussion points
Hook	Moose Video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWvx3X0xzCw)
Content/Discussion	<p>After watching this short clip ask students, “Which side of the wall do you want to be on?” You want to know something? It’s your choice!</p> <p>Suppose you have a job What will get you demoted and fired? <i>Discussion (e.g., not showing up on time, not doing the job right, being lazy, etc.)</i> How to you keep the job and get promoted? <i>Discussion (e.g., show up on time or early, do your best work, etc.)</i></p> <p>Showing up and working hard in school are SO important!</p> <p><i>(You could have a volunteer put these numbers on the board as you discuss them so the students can grasp them better.)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ The average high school dropout will earn \$20,241 per year. ↳ The average high school graduate will earn \$30,627 per year. ↳ That’s a difference of \$10,386 each year just for graduating from high school. (Oh, and by the way, you need to make it through junior high successfully to get to high school!) ↳ SO, if you divide \$10,386 by the 4 years it takes to get through high school, that’s almost \$2,600 per year that you are paying yourself by being in school and getting good grades! ↳ That’s around \$1,300 per semester, \$650 per term, which comes out to about \$72 per week! That’s pretty good pay for a 12-14 year-old! ↳ Imagine walking out the door of the school at the end of each Friday and picking up \$72 dollars on your way out! <p><small>(source: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/by-the-numbers-dropping-out-of-high-school/)</small></p> <p>Being in school and earning good grades by doing good work will help you earn the credit you need to graduate from high school and be ready for college or a career.</p>
Reflection	<p>So, let’s review (scribe?): What can YOU do to choose success, to choose the better side of the wall? In other words, how do you do well in school? The same as you would do well in a job!</p> <p><i>Discussion items may include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Be here!</i> ➤ <i>Be on time!</i> ➤ <i>Cooperate with teachers and fellow students!</i>

- *Bring necessary materials!*
- *Do all assignments!*
- *Keep a neat notebook!*
- *Make time for study each day!*
- *Ask for help!*
- *Use FLEX time wisely!*
- *Have fun and be involved!*
- *Use your time wisely!*
- *Set goals!*
- *If you're absent, make up your work!*
- *If you know you're going to be gone, get your work ahead of time!*

Some additional key points that could be made:

- Plan on graduating from high school and getting training or education beyond high school
- Explore careers now to keep you motivated to learn and earn
- In short: Be where you are supposed to be, when you're supposed to be there, and doing what you're supposed to be doing. That's how you succeed in a job. That's how you will succeed in your "job" now as a student.
- Ask yourself these questions:
 - ✓ What am I expected to learn?
 - ✓ How do I know when I have learned it?
 - ✓ What will I do if I don't learn it at first?
 - ✓ What can I do to be productive if I already know it?

After the discussion, have each student record in their planner at least two things they want to do better this year in order to be a more successful student.