

## Lesson 6: Exploring My Opportunities

**Objective:** Students will explore opportunities to challenge themselves and seek out new opportunities to participate in.

**Time Needed:** 25 minutes

### Vocabulary:

Use instructional techniques such as a Word Wall or Vocabulary Bingo to teach the contextual meanings of the following vocabulary words. These techniques are described in more detail in the "Vocabulary Activities Teacher Guide."

### Daily Vocabulary Words:

Word	Contextual Definition
Challenge	A difficult task or problem; something that is hard to do
Leadership	The power or ability to lead other people
Opportunity	A favorable juncture of circumstances

### Launch: (3 minutes)

*Teacher Note:* Write the following quote on the board. Read the quote out loud and ask students what the quote means to them.

"The ladder of success is best climbed by stepping on the rungs of opportunity." -Ayn Rand

### Opening Message:

With every new year, come new opportunities. New opportunities to:

- Challenge yourself
- Take on a leadership opportunity
- Try a new approach

Let's think of this school year as being FULL of NEW opportunities! Sometimes we do not take advantage of new opportunities because we do not know they are there. Let's brainstorm some potential new opportunities we can take advantage of in school, at home and in our community!

### Agenda: (17 minutes)

#### Individual Work: (6 minutes)

Give students the FFWD Exploring Opportunities handout and review instructions. Remind them new opportunities to challenge themselves and show leadership can be in multiple setting, not just at school. For example, they can take on leadership in their home by taking care of family members. Give students 5 minutes to complete.

#### Pair Share: (5 minutes)

Turn to your partner and share how you completed the statements on the FFWD Exploring Opportunities handout. You will each have 2 minutes to share.

#### Share-Out: (6 minutes)

Ask students to share the discussion they had with their partner and specifically answer these two questions:

- What are some ways you can challenge yourself and participate in new opportunities?
- Did you learn about any new leadership opportunities that you are interested in?

**Summary: (5 minutes)**

*Teacher Note: Share an example from your life where you challenged yourself and benefited from exploring and participating in an opportunity.*

Many times, those who reach success do so by taking advantages of the opportunities available to them. Opportunities are not only things and experiences given or provided to us, but they also come from us actively searching them out. As you have learned, opportunity can also come in form of what WE DO.

I encourage you to take on the opportunity to challenge yourself, works towards achieving new goals and trying new ways of becoming a better student!

**Extension:**

Get students into small groups and assign each group a different category of possible opportunities at their school and in the community including academic, leadership, internships, jobs and extra-curricular opportunities. (add more categories if appropriate). Make sure each group has a chrome book or laptop in order to do research for this exercise. Give each group one copy of the *FFWD Our Opportunities* handout, have them do the following:

- Assign a note taker within their group
- Have them write their assigned category on the handout so there is no confusion as to what type of opportunities they are supposed to research
- Research and find at least five opportunities in their assigned category

Students can compile the research of the entire class and create a handbook.

**Materials:**

Board or Chart Paper/Markers

Copies of the *FFWD Exploring Opportunities* handout

Extension:

Chromebook/Laptop for each group

Copies of the *FFWD Our Opportunities* handout

# Fast Forward to College (▶▶FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

## Exploring Opportunities

Instructions: In order to reach success, we need to take advantage of our opportunities. Complete the following statements and share with a partner:

**Two examples of how I can challenge myself this year are . . .**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Two potential opportunities for me to take on a leadership role are . . .**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**In order to be a better student, 2 new things I will try are . . .**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Fast Forward to College (▶▶FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

## Our Opportunities

Category: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Members: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name	Description	Requirements to Participate	Important Info/Deadlines