



Aspirations Story Squares!

Secondary Lesson Plan

Aspirations:

Aspirations represent the ability to dream and set goals for the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams. When students work toward their hopes and dreams, they are driven by a vision of who they want to become and what they wish to achieve. Pursuing and achieving one's aspirations can significantly enhance a student's sense of purpose.

Objective:

Students will reflect on their own aspirations and learn about the aspirations of their peers.

Materials:

Aspirations Story Squares handout (provided).

Activity Steps:

- Provide each student with a copy of the Aspirations Story Squares handout.
- Ask students to complete at least 4 of the squares, letting them know they are welcome to complete all squares if they want to.
- Have students mingle around the room and share one of their completed squares with at least 3 different partners. Challenge them to partner with classmates they don't yet know very well.
- After students return to their seats from the mingle activity, ask each person to share one thing they found interesting about another student's Aspirations.



Personal Reflection:

Ask students to pick one of their Aspirations Story Squares to develop into a narrative. Encourage them to engage the reader by creating a smooth progression of experiences or events. Suggest using narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, and reflection. Encourage using rich, descriptive language and a conclusion that explores what was experienced and/or learned.

Group Discussion:

- What was it like to share your Aspirations Story Squares?
- What did you learn about the aspirations of your classmates?
- How does knowing your classmates' aspirations benefit our class as a whole?
- Why is it important to interact with all different types of students?

Extended Learning:

Using a technology device, students can create their Aspirations Story Squares using a photo collage app such as Pic Stitch.

Students can record their personal reflection narratives and create a podcast using Apple's Podcasts app, Downcast, GarageBand or a podcast tool of your choice.

Notes



1. Draw or write something that highlights a unique talent you have.	2. Draw or write the name of someone you know who is passionate about their career.
3. Draw or write about a skill you are currently learning.	4. Draw or write about one of your aspirations for the future.
5. Draw or write the top three values you look for in a friend. Why are these values important to you?	6. Draw or write about something you would like to try but are not sure you will be good at.
7. Draw or write about an animal that reflects the type of person you want to become.	8. Draw or write specific steps you could take today toward reaching one of your aspirations.