OWNERSHIP OF LEARNING

LESSON 12-11 ▲ SEEKING OUT ROLE MODELS AND MENTORS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Understanding what makes a person a role model.
* Understanding how can students become role models.
* Take action to meet with people of similar backgrounds and discover their postsecondary journey.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Role Model Interview Worksheet
* **Prepared list of positive role model qualities**

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Provide students with a list of positive role model qualities** and have a brief discussion about what makes a person a positive role model and who is a positive role model in their culture, racial. or ethnic group. Share with students that this lesson is going to be about talking with role models in their own community and finding out their stories.
2. **Give students time in small groups to identify people they know personally in their community who they perceive as role models.** Encourage students to think of people in their family, their immediate neighborhood, and community groups like their church. As a whole class, ask students to share who these people are and what their role is in the community. Make a list of these people.
3. **Brainstorm with students questions they would like to ask if they had the opportunity to talk with these role models about their stories,** especially their story about education. Make a list on the board or chart paper of the questions.
4. **Ask each student to identify someone they can interview that could be a positive role model and select three questions they want to ask.** Instruct students to fill out the top part of the following worksheet. Share that they will be reporting out findings from the interviews in a later class. Make a list of the people students are going to interview so that you can plan the next workshop.
5. **Talk with students about who were your role models.** Share how they influenced your life and your desire for education beyond high school.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed first section of *Role Model Interview Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **FACILITATOR NOTES**

This lesson helps students develop interview questions they can use to interview people in their community. The Enrichment Lessons are based on students conducting individual interviews and sharing what they learned.

* **ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**

In small groups, allow students time to share their interviews with each other and make a list of the common qualities or attributes of these community role models. Have each group identify a reporter.

Give students time for each group to report out their findings. Continue to explore that idea that role models are everywhere and in every cultural or racial group. Discuss how these people might be mentors for students as they continue on their journey through high school and into postsecondary settings.

Next ask students the question: How can you become a role model for others? Be prepared to help students identify the qualities or attributes they share in common with the community role models. Help students think concretely about where and when students can be role models. (As noted earlier, this discussion at least thirty minutes should be allotted for students to really discuss this question and reflect on their leadership qualities.)

OWNERSHIP OF LEARNING

LESSON 12-11 STUDENT HANDOUT

ROLE MODEL INTERVIEW WORKSHEET

**Student’s Name:**

**Role Models Name:**

**Why did you choose this person as a role model?**

**Questions for the Role Model**

1. **Why is education important? What has been your journey to gain an education? (Required question)**
2. **Student Choice Question:**
3. **Student Choice Question:**