

Lesson 9

My Fantasy College: *Coach Guide*

Learning Goals

1. Students will understand that college is about more than just academics
2. Students will understand the characteristics that make each school unique
3. Students will think about what to look for in their dream school

**Spend time at either the beginning or end of the lesson addressing questions/concerns from last week's lesson*

Introduction (~5 minutes)

- **Welcome your class back to Beaver Hangouts and introduce today's lesson**
 - Recap your week as a college student and ask your students what they've been learning in class.
 - Today we're going to talk about our dream schools. Spend a few minutes talking about what characteristics you looked for in a school and why you chose to attend OSU.

Activity 1 (~10 minutes)

- **Dream Elementary School**
 - Have each student take out a piece of paper. Ask the question, *"If you could create your own elementary school, what would it be like? How would it be the same as your school? How would it be different?"*
 - After students brainstorm for a few minutes, ask some to share what they wrote down.
 - Assuming that students wrote about more than just classes, emphasize that college is the same way. Although learning is the main reason to go to college, it's not the only thing to consider when getting ready to apply. Next, we're going to think about our fantasy colleges!

Activity 2 (~25 minutes)

- **My Fantasy College**
 - Make sure each student has the handout titled "My Fantasy College." Before they begin, go over the worksheet as a group and ensure that students understand what each section means.
 - Give students some time to complete the worksheet. Encourage students to be creative, but to think about what they've learned during Beaver Hangouts sessions. Tell students to come up to the computer if they want to ask questions while they're working.
 - Ask for volunteers to describe their dream college. Point out that everyone's dream school looks a little bit different.
 - When applying to college it's important to take all the characteristics of the school into account, not just the academics. A college may have what you want to study, but it may be too big or not have the resources you want. Thinking about these things when you're younger will make it much easier to make a decision later. Another great thing to do is to visit a college campus with your school or family. There are a lot of fun things to do like go to a sports game or take a campus tour!

Closing/Assignment (~5 minutes)

- **Wrap-up**
 - Leave some time for students to ask you questions

