

## ACTIVITY #3: DEVELOPING COLLEGE- READINESS PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS

### OPENING DISCUSSION:

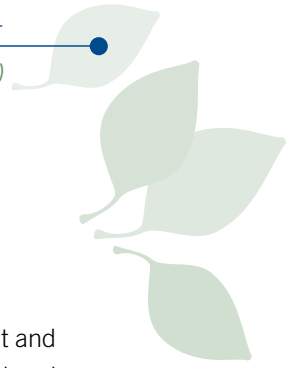
Students need to begin thinking ahead to how they will continue planning for college beyond the end of this session. The purpose of this activity is to help students consider challenges that may arise as they continue on their path to college. The exercise calls upon topics covered throughout the six session series. By problem solving and sharing with one another, students should grow in their determination to reach their goal—COLLEGE!

#### *Activity/Handout*

#### **My Map to College: Nothing Can Stop Me Now!**

#### *Instructions:*

1. Distribute the handout: My Map to College: Nothing Can Stop Me Now!
2. Divide students into small groups of, perhaps, three. Instruct them to follow the directions on the first page of the handout.
3. Bring the whole group back together. Move from small group to small group asking for their response to each challenge-point: Was it a “bump in the road” or a “roadblock?” How did they think the challenge might be addressed? Who might help?
4. Let other groups respond before moving on to the next challenge.
5. Invite the whole group to summarize what they have heard/learned from this exercise.



## MY MAP TO COLLEGE: NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW<sup>5</sup>

Congratulations, you've made the decision to go to college. Good for you! Now you are in the driver's seat and here is a map to get you started on your way. You are going to find that there are some bumps in the road and even a few roadblocks. To reach your final destination—COLLEGE—you will need to figure out how to get over the bumps and around the roadblocks.

Work with your small group to come up with solutions to the challenges you will encounter on the map on the next page. First decide if this is a “bump in the road” (fairly easy to get over), or a “roadblock” (will require time and work). Next discuss possible solutions. Jot down who you might go to for help in making progress and/or how you solved the problem. Be ready to share with the whole group at the end.

My Map To College: Nothing Can Stop Me Now

**MY MAP TO COLLEGE: NOTHING CAN STOP ME NOW!**

**YOU!**

**COLLEGE!**

**Road Signs and Text Boxes:**

- 19:** You have never been on a college campus so you're not sure you'll recognize college when you get there. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 206:** You have fallen far behind in one of the courses that you know is required for college admission. Your friend tells you should 'team up' to an easier class second semester. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 197:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 216:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 26:** Your mom is a single, working mom. She has been depending on you to help with your little brothers and sisters. You aren't sure she can manage if you go away to college. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 97:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 20:** You just got your score back from your college admission test (ACT or SAT). They are a disappointment and don't look good enough for admission to college. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 126:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 20:** You read *Antony and Cleopatra* that the average cost of college education in the United States is that more money than you and your parents could ever save. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 5:** None of your friends are planning to go to college. They say that college is too long and hard. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 126:** Your college application requires an essay. Writing is not your strength. You don't know how to get started. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 242:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 97:** A military recruiter has visited your high school. He suggests that you join the armed forces instead of going to college. He tells you that you can get all the educational training that you will need, while seeing the world. Is this a bump in the road or a road block? Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 26:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 19:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 207:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 74:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 84:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
- 138:** Suggested ways to deal with this and move on? Who might help?
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