Defining success

12 Recommended:
12th grade

Length:
100 minutes

About this lesson

To help inform education and career/life choices students will participate in a guided class discussion on the topic of how to define success, explore what success means to them in various aspects of life, and understand how to use curiosity to support their road to success.

Learning objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- understand what it means to feel challenged, satisfied, and successful in a career
- explore what success means to them in various aspects of life, including their personal life, school, and career
- explore ways they can make a difference and achieve success in a career that interests them
- investigate how to use curiosity to support their road to success

Driving question

What does a successful future mean to me?

Future-ready skills

Communication   Evaluating   Reflecting

Lesson breakdown

30 minutes

Activity 1: Ideas of success

In this activity, students will participate in a guided class discussion on the topic of how to define success, which will remind students that feeling accomplished entails a lot more than monetary rewards or landing their dream job.
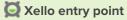
45 minutes

Activity 2: Xello lesson: Defining success

Direct students to complete the Xello lesson titled **Defining success**, which will get them to explore what success means to them in various aspects of life, including their personal life, school, and career.

25 minutes

Activity 3: Fueled by curiosity

In this activity, students will explore the success trait curiosity to help them understand how to use curiosity to support their road to success.

⬛ Xello entry point

Before starting this lesson students must save at least 3 careers. It's also recommended that they complete all three phases of **Matchmaker** and complete Xello's lesson titled **Explore career matches**.

Vocabulary

- Motivation
- Career goals
- Personal goals
- School goals
- Success traits
- Determination
- Passion
- Empathy
- Resilience
- Curiosity
- Cooperation

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Activity 1: Ideas of success

12 Recommended:
12th grade

Length:
30 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- What does it mean to have a passion for something or have a passion project?
- What is the difference between something you're passionate about and something you're curious about?
- What do you need in a career so you feel challenged, satisfied, and successful?
- Can I be successful if I don't have a singular driving passion?

Before you begin

- Establish a forum for a guided class discussion, whether online or face-to-face this discussion will work best in a synchronous learning environment where students are engaging in learning at the same time (ex. live chat, video conference, or in class).
- To ensure all students participate, have your class list on hand so you can track who has shared and if needed you can call upon students with follow-up questions to get them engaged.

Teaching strategies

In this activity, students will participate in a guided class discussion on the topic of how to define success, which will remind students that feeling accomplished entails a lot more than monetary rewards or landing their dream job.

1. PART 1: Begin the discussion by asking your students: **What does it mean to have a passion for something or have a passion project?**

   Follow-up questions:

   - **What does it feel like to follow your passion?**
   - **What motivates you to follow a passion?** - If it's not suggested by a student, you can identify "curiosity" as a motivator.

2. PART 2: **What is the difference between something you're passionate about and something you're curious about?**

   Follow up questions:

   - Which of these makes you feel excited and accomplished, pursuing a passion or exploring a curiosity? Why do you think that?
   - Do you need a passion to have a successful career?
   - Do you need curiosity to have a successful career?

3. PART 3: **What do you need in a career so you feel challenged, satisfied, and successful?**

   Follow up questions:

   - **Why should you feel challenged in your career?**
   - **What do you need to feel motivated and rewarded in your career?** - If no suggestions are given, ask students to think about what motivates them at school or extracurricular activities
   - **What career goals would you be proud to accomplish?**

Materials required

- A synchronous learning environment where students can engage in a live discussion

Artifacts

Students will complete a post-discussion reflection to express their ideas of success.

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Activity 1: Ideas of success

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Length:
30 minutes

4 WRAP UP: Provide the 3 main discussion questions to your students to have them write or audio record an individual post-discussion reflection. Recording their ideas now will help them to complete part 2 in Xello's **Defining success** lesson.

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Activity 2 - Xello Lesson: Defining success

12 Recommended:
12th grade

Length:
45 minutes

About this activity

In Activity 1, students participated in a guided class discussion on the topic of how to define success, reminding them that feeling accomplished entails a lot more than monetary rewards or landing their dream job.

In this activity students will complete the Xello lesson **Defining success**, where they will explore what success means to them in various aspects of life, including their personal life, school, and career, and explore ways they can make a difference and achieve success in a career that interests them.

Inquiry prompts

- What does it mean to be successful?
- Describe the most successful person you know. What makes them successful?
- What characteristics or experiences do successful people have in common?
- Why do many people consider wealth a measure of success?
- What advice have you received/read about the secret to success?

Before you begin

Before diving in with your students:

1. Create a copy or download the Defining success slide presentation (also available in Spanish) to use as a helpful teaching aid before and after the Xello lesson.
2. Review the slides (including the speaker notes section) for suggested discussion strategies and prompts.
3. Update slide 5 of the presentation with your students' Xello sign in format. If you don't know your students' Xello login format check out Sign in to Xello for support.

Teaching strategies

Use the following strategies to set your students up for success:

1. Before students start the Xello lesson, take 5 minutes to have them review and consider the inquiry prompts from the **Warm up** activity slide of the Defining success slide presentation (also available in Spanish), or choose your own. Advise students to keep these questions in mind as they complete the lesson. You will revisit these questions with them in the **Exit activity** afterwards.

2. Help your students log in to their Xello account. Project your screen as you model how to navigate to the lesson using your demo student account. From the student dashboard, click on a lesson to get started. If the lesson you want isn't visible, access it by selecting **View all lessons** below the lesson shown, or **View lessons** on the left of your screen.

3. Students finished early? Students have learned that curiosity is a trait that can

Materials required

- Computers or tablets with internet access
- Whiteboard/projector
- Defining success slide presentation (also available in Spanish)

Prerequisites

- Save 3 careers

Artifacts

Students will complete the Xello lesson: **Defining success**.

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Activity 2 - Xello Lesson: Defining success

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45 minutes

support their personal road to success. If students have time after completing the Xello lesson, encourage them to add and rate the trait of curiosity in their skills section in Xello if they haven't yet.

4. They can also explore their dashboard feed where they'll find content related to their saved careers.

5. Once students have completed the Xello lesson, return to the Defining success slide presentation (also available in Spanish) to have students revisit the inquiry prompts you posed at the beginning of class.

6. **Classroom discussion strategy: I used to think: Now I think:** Encourage students to share how important they think the trait of curiosity is to their future success. Students can use a scale from 1-3 to rate importance. A rating of 1 equals not important, a rating of 2 equals important, and a rating of 3 equals very important.

7. Ask students if their thoughts about the importance of using curiosity have changed or stayed the same since completing the Xello lesson. Example: I used to think being curious was important (a rating of 2) but now I think it is very important (a rating of 3).

8. If their rating has changed, what do they think caused this change in thinking? If their rating has stayed the same, why?

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Activity 3: Fueled by curiosity

12 Recommended:
12th grade

Length:
20 minutes

Inquiry prompts

- How can curiosity help you succeed in various aspects of your life?
- What challenges could curiosity help you overcome?
- How can curiosity support your personal road to success?

Before you begin

- Students will need to be able to access their list of interests on their Xello **About me** page, as well as their **Experiences timeline**.

Teaching strategies

In this activity, students will explore the success trait curiosity to help them understand how to use curiosity to support their road to success.

1 Provide the instructions on the next page to your students.

Materials required

- Student instructions (also available in Spanish)
- Computer or tablet with internet access

Artifacts

Students will add a curiosity they are exploring to their Interests section on their Xello profile and reflect on the ways exploring a curiosity can support their road to success.

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Fueled by curiosity

Student instructions

Not all of us have a singular driving force that is clearly directing us towards our destined future, and that's ok. You might have many interests that could lead you down different pathways to success. Instead of becoming exasperated searching for that perfect career path that is supposedly meant for you, ease off the pressure by exploring your curiosities, which will lead you down pathways that you are in control of choosing. When passion feels so out of reach, curiosity can be a calming diversion.

The best-selling author Elizabeth Gilbert, famous for her novel *Eat, Pray, Love* has said,

> "Follow your curiosity. It might lead you to your passion or it might not. You might get nothing out of it at all except a beautiful, long life where all you did was follow your gorgeous curiosity. And that should be enough too."

1. Review your list of interests on your Xello **About me** page. Do you have any new curiosities you're exploring that you could add to your list? Add at least one curiosity to your **Interests** section.

2. What aspect of your life (work, volunteer, education, or personal) does this curiosity relate to? How are you exploring it further? Add an experience to your Xello **Experiences timeline** and make sure to reflect on:
   - **What I liked**: What have you liked about exploring this curiosity?
   - **What I found challenging**: How has your exploration of this curiosity helped you overcome a challenge?
   - **What I learned**: What have you learned through your exploration of this curiosity? Where has it led you?

Potenciado por la curiosidad

Instrucciones para estudiantes

No todos tenemos una motivación singular que nos guíe hacia el futuro que nos espera, y eso está bien. Podrías tener muchos intereses que podrían conducirte por diferentes rumbos hacia el éxito. En lugar de exasperarte en la búsqueda del rumbo profesional ideal al que supuestamente estás destinado, reduce el nivel de presión explorando tus curiosidades. Esto te llevará por rumbos que podrás elegir. Cuando la pasión parece muy fuera de alcance, la curiosidad puede ser un medio de evasión tranquilizador.

La autora de éxitos de ventas Elizabeth Gilbert, famosa por su novela *Come, reza, ama*, dijo:

> "Sigue la curiosidad. Podría conducirte a lo que te apasiona o no. Podrías no conseguir de ello más que una vida hermosa y larga en la que lo único que hayas hecho sea seguir a la bella curiosidad. Y eso debería bastar también".

1 Revisa tu lista de intereses en tu página de **Acerca de mí**, de Xello. ¿Tienes alguna curiosidad que estés explorando y podrías agregar a tu lista? Agrega al menos una curiosidad a tu sección de **Intereses**.

2 ¿Con qué aspecto de tu vida (laboral, de voluntariado, educativo o personal) se relaciona esta curiosidad? ¿De qué manera lo explorarás más? Agrega una experiencia a tu línea de tiempo de **Experiencia** y reflexiona sobre lo siguiente:

- **Lo que me gustó:** ¿Qué te gustó de la experiencia de explorar esta curiosidad?
- **Lo que me resulta desafiante:** ¿De qué manera te sirvió explorar esta curiosidad para superar un desafío?
- **Lo que aprendí:** ¿Qué aprendiste al explorar esta curiosidad? ¿A dónde te dirigió?