



Lesson Plan:

Closing the Circle (Career Path Group)

General Information

Grade Level:	8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th grade
Focus Area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Career Development & Planning ✓ College Planning ✓ Native American Culture
<p>Overview of the lesson: <i>This lesson will provide Native American students with a sense of closure for this group through reflection and honoring one another.</i></p>	

Targets & Outcomes

ASCA Student Standards Targeted:

Mindsets & Behaviors

- M 2. Sense of acceptance, respect, support and inclusion for self and others in the school environment
- B-LS 4. Self-motivation and self-direction for learning
- B-LS 5. Media and technology skills to enhance learning
- B-LS 7. Long- and short-term academic, career and social/emotional goals
- B-SS 3. Positive relationships with adults to support success

Social and Emotional Learning Competencies Targeted:

- ✓ Self-Awareness
- ✓ Self-Management
- ✓ Social Relationship/Awareness
- ✓ Relationship Skills/Management
- ✓ Responsible Decision-Making

Student Learning Objectives:

Student(s) will:

- Relate or sketch a summary of the group's past sessions.
- Write a pledge statement to their community.
- Value and honor one another through gratitude statements to one another.

Materials:

- Handout: **I Pledge to My Community**
- One blank sheet of paper for each student
- Writing utensils (pen, pencil, colored pencils)
- Optional: small, cultural gift of gratitude for each member. Facilitator is encouraged to consult with the Indian Education program staff or a cultural knowledge keeper for an appropriate gift idea. Examples could include sage, sage shell, medicine pouch, or other cultural gift.

Lesson Delivery:

Pre-Delivery Preparation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Create a written 1-2 sentence summary of each group session. For example, <i>During our first session we created a dreamcatcher together. We used that activity to create a sense of community.</i>● Consider writing down one statement of gratitude that you have for this group. An example may include I am grateful for your gifts of sharing, I am grateful to know more about each of you, or I am grateful for the time that we have spent together.
Introduction:	<p>Over the <i>(six sessions)</i>, we have taken a journey together. We completed a number of activities that have helped us to understand ourselves, our communities, and our futures.</p> <p>Today is our last group session, so we are going to be closing our circle. We are going to spend some time reviewing our work together, reflecting on what we learned, and honoring one another.</p>
Teach Content:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide each student with a blank sheet of paper.2. Instruct the students to draw an outline of their hand on one side of the paper.3. Let the students know that you will be reviewing the content from the various group sessions, and that you are interested in what ideas they have grasped or learned. Instruct the students that while you review the sessions, the students should write down memories or thoughts about the sessions within their hand outline. Students can also opt to draw within their outline.4. Read the session summaries that you prepared for this lesson.5. After reading through the summaries, ask the students if they would like to share any of their thoughts or memories.6. Provide each student with the I Pledge to My Community handout.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Read the following statements to the group. <i>Community can mean your immediate family, your extended family, your neighborhood (as in urban settings), and/or your tribe or nation. Your community is relying on you to give back through your gifts and talents after high school. Your gifts and talents will assist with sustaining, building, and empowering your community. What is one thing that you would like to pledge to your community based on what you learned from participating in this group?</i> Examples may include I pledge to graduate from high school; I pledge to attend school regularly; I pledge to attend college after high school; I pledge to investigate (<i>career</i>) through an internship this summer. 8. Allow students time to share their pledges aloud, if they decide to share. The group will be able to validate and encourage one another through this step. Students can keep their pledges. 9. Optional: the facilitator can collect the pledges and, with permission from the group, hang the pledges in a common space, office, bulletin board, etc.
<p>Summarize/Close:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Instruct the students that we have one last activity before we close our circle. 2. Ask them to turn their hand print sheet over and write their name at the top of the page. 3. Let the students know that we are going to honor one another through the gift of kind words. 4. Ask the students to pass their sheets to the person to their left. Once the students receive another student's sheet, they can write a kind word, a note of appreciation or gratitude, or a special drawing of thanks for their contribution to the group. 5. Provide the students a minute or two to complete their note/drawing. Then have the students pass the sheets to the next person on their left. Continue passing the sheets to the left until everyone has had an opportunity to write/draw on one another's page. 6. Once all have finished writing on one another's sheets, allow the students a few moments to review the comments/drawing on their sheets. 7. Take a moment and read your statement of gratitude to the group. Thank the students for their participation in the group. 8. Optional: offer students a cultural gift for participating.

Notes for future delivery or research: