

... eMentors for 9th Grade Pathway ...

Guiding Question Prompts for Students

1



Introductions

Introduce yourself by giving your name, pronouns, and grade. Share your perspectives on school and talk about your classes and/or any extracurricular activities you are part of or looking forward to joining. Ask your mentor about their high school experience – were they motivated? What classes did they like? What extracurricular activities did they do? You may also ask if there was anything they learned or gained during high school that they still apply to their current professional work today.

2



Areas of Interest/Passion

Share more about yourself such as your interests, passions, and/or hobbies outside of class. Talk about when you first became interested in it and what you enjoy most about it. Ask your mentor about their interests, passions, and/or hobbies they enjoy and why they enjoy them. You can also ask if there were any interests, passions, and/or hobbies they gained from high school.

3



Future Goals

Think about life after high school. What do you want to do for a job or a career? If you're not sure exactly what job you want, what would be your dream job if you could do anything? Ask your mentor what careers they were interested in growing up and if they ended up in one of the careers they were interested in. If not, what made them decide to pursue another career path? You can also ask if there were any classes they took that helped them after high school or if there were any classes they wished they had taken in high school.

4



Exploring Skills Aligned to Goals

Since you have shared your dream job or future career with your mentor, ask your mentor what skills or experience you'd need to be successful in this field. Do you need to go to college or trade school for this job or career? If so, what major or specialty would you study? What classes can you take or clubs can you join to gain more skills or knowledge about this career? What skills do you need to be successful in this field. If you're not sure, you can look up what general skills are needed for that job or career field.

Meet & Greet



Be prepared to meet your mentor. It is a good idea to brainstorm some questions you would like to ask your mentor in person. You will have time to chat with your mentor one-on-one, eat lunch, and participate in activities.

Setting Short-Term Goals



Now that you have a better idea about what you want to do after high school, it's time to think about what steps you can take right now to reach your goals. Identify a few short-term goals that will support your dream job or future career. Discuss with your mentor how these short-term goals will help you. If you're unsure, ask your mentor what short-term goals they have set for themselves that helped them reach their goals/career.

Learning from Failures and Mistakes



You have talked about your short-term goals for the future and some things you can do today to achieve those goals. Along the way, you might make a mistake or have a setback that feels like a failure. Ask your mentor about their experiences with mistakes and failures. What have they learned from their experiences with mistakes and failures?

Reflecting on Themes



You've discussed with your mentor about your interests, goals in life, and skills for success. Can you think of something you learned about yourself and share it with your mentor? Think about what you have learned and share how you can apply that to your own high school career moving forward.