

Storyboard for Success

Category of Competency Taxonomy: Higher-Order Thinking Skills

Description:

A goal-planning activity in which participants map out the steps to achieve a personal or career goal, visualising challenges and developing solutions along the way.

Activity Categories:

Individual or Group, In-person or Online, Easy to Prepare, Single Session

Main Competencies Involved:

Analytical Thinking, Decision-Making, Future Planning, Independent Thinking

Other Competencies (Different Category):

Accountability, Autonomy, Entrepreneurship, Optimism, Risk Management, Self-direction, Strategic Planning

Resources Needed and Practical Considerations:

Blank storyboard templates or large sheets of paper, Pens, markers, or coloured pencils
Optional: printed examples of storyboards for guidance

Estimated Time:

40 minutes

Description of Activity:

Step 1: Explain to participants that they will create a “Storyboard for Success” for a personal or career goal they wish to achieve. This could be a short-term goal (e.g., securing a part-time job, completing a course) or a long-term goal (e.g., launching a small business, attending college). Emphasise that this activity helps them think through each step of the process, identify challenges they might face, and brainstorm solutions.

Step 2: Ask participants to take a few minutes to choose and write down their goal, focusing on specific, measurable outcomes (e.g., “Get hired for a retail job within three months” or “Save enough money to go travelling next summer”).

Step 3: Provide each participant with a storyboard template or a large sheet of paper divided into 6–8 sections, representing different steps toward achieving their goal. Instruct them to outline each step needed to accomplish their goal, filling in each section with:

- The action they need to take



- Potential challenges or obstacles they may face at that stage
- A strategy or solution to overcome each challenge

Encourage participants to use words, symbols, or simple drawings to illustrate each part of their storyboard. Remind them to think critically about potential obstacles and to develop realistic solutions to address each challenge, fostering both problem-solving and future planning skills.

Step 4: After participants complete their storyboards, invite them to share their goals and key steps with the group. Allow time for positive group feedback, encouraging others to suggest additional solutions or alternative approaches to any challenges presented.

Step 5: Carry out a debriefing activity to reflect on the power of future planning.

Processing questions:

How did breaking your goal into smaller steps help you understand the overall process?

Was there anything surprising about the steps needed to reach your goal?

How confident do you feel in following the steps you outlined?

Which challenge do you think might be the most difficult to overcome, and why?

How did creating solutions for each obstacle affect your confidence in achieving your goal?

Did this activity change how you view goal-setting or planning for the future?

What did you learn about your own strengths and areas for improvement in planning?

