



101 Early College Awareness Activities

1. Have younger students follow current high school seniors with their college selection process this spring and into next year (through letters, emails, visits). Hint: Great way to start a mentoring program.
2. Plan a college road trip; include a map and route, budget, where would you visit and why.
3. Fill out a college application and then set goals to fill the gaps on the application. This is fun to do with 8th-10th graders.
4. Have older students write a captivating children's book that touches on the college application and admissions process.
5. Read this book to younger students.
6. Have Scholars write to colleges to get catalogues, admission videos, and/or gear.
7. Think into the future by writing a letter home from college describing the experience.
8. Research the colleges attended by people who come up in class studies or discussions.
9. Ensure that all students can take home a picture of themselves on a college campus.
10. Decorate classroom doors in college colors.
11. Visit a college campus as a class.
12. Have college students/professors/president visit the school.
13. Have teachers talk about their college experience at the beginning of class.
14. Watch an admissions video together.
15. Have a college gear day (wear hats, shirts.)
16. Display teacher diplomas in the front hall.
17. Have a bulletin board displaying high school seniors that were accepted into colleges.
18. Mark a road map and label colleges.
19. Look at campus maps and compare colleges from maps. What can you learn about college from just a map?
20. Brainstorm a list of as many colleges as you can think of without asking others.
21. Look up colleges on the web with mentors.
22. Play College Bingo.
23. Play College Trivia.
24. Play "Who Wants to Be a College Student?"
25. Play College Jeopardy.
26. Have a day where everybody in the school writes with college pens and pencils.

27. Have a “college of the day” mentioned in the morning at announcements.
28. Decorate hallways.
29. Invent a college board game.
30. Do an online college scavenger hunt.
31. Follow college teams during March Madness.
32. Have the school library display college catalogues, books, and other resources for students and parents.
33. Send home a list to parents about helpful websites and list of good books about college.
34. Make a collage using old college catalogues.
35. Interview teachers/parents/community adults/mentors about their college experiences.
36. Have a school-based college fair with local alums representing their alma mater.
37. Hold a financial aid workshop night for parents and students who need assistance filling out applications and forms. Have computers available and offer a free dinner. Get other students to offer free babysitting.
38. Interview current college students.
39. Conduct a college survey.
40. Make a packing list of everything to take to college.
41. Collect pictures of teachers when they were in college and make a teacher college face book; find interesting facts, college info, and neat stuff to include.
42. Attend a college sporting event.
43. Visit a college library to do homework.
44. Buy supplies at the college bookstore to use as class prizes.
45. Plan and do a math scavenger hunt on a college campus.
46. Research about different majors.
47. Have a school-wide college trivia question each day.
48. Look at college recycling programs.
49. Make a list to compare middle school and/or high school to college.
50. Make a list of dream jobs/careers and look at the level of education needed.
51. Display college banners/pennants.
52. Love history? Find out how certain colleges were started and when.
53. Look at creative ways to pay for college.
54. Meet a college professor or perhaps have the professor visit class.
55. Have high school seniors talk to younger students about their college search.
56. Make a list of different kinds of colleges (two-year, four-year, public, private); find examples of each and how they differ.
57. Meet an admissions person to learn about the process.
58. Have a guest speaker talk about how to write the college essay.

59. Host a potluck dinner for parents to talk about college.
60. Invite parents on a college trip.
61. Hold leadership summits, mentor training, and/or goal setting on a college campus.
62. Have students ask parents and other relatives and friends about how they learned about college and/or selected one.
63. Throughout the year, weave two minutes about college into what the class is currently studying, reading, and discussing.
64. Write a poem about college.
65. Hold the school field day on a college campus.
66. Invite families to attend a college game on the weekend.
67. Let parents know about free activities, art shows, and exhibits happening on the college campus in the school's weekly parent newsletter.
68. Get the college greenhouse involved in a science project.
69. Visit a class with a college student.
70. Take CPR and/or first aid on a college campus.
71. Recruit mentors from a college fair.
72. Make a college coloring book for younger students.
73. Check out college mascots.
74. As a class project, take a special item, mail it around the country, and have its picture taken on different college campuses. Learn about the colleges and places it visits.
75. Visit a college radio station or TV studio and do a show.
76. Do a leadership through service project on a college campus.
77. Have college students demonstrate a GPS, making of a PowerPoint, accessing libraries on line, making a web page, and other technological mysteries.
78. Find out the difference between a college and a university.
79. Invite to school college students from a country or region being studied by your class.
80. Try to find a college for every letter of the alphabet.
81. Have students dress in the colors of their favorite college.
82. Have students research and then present about a college to others in class.
83. Find out where last year's seniors went to college and have the class write to them asking about college.
84. Discuss the phrase "There is a college for everyone."
85. Where did the faces on U.S. currency go to college?
86. Have a college bike parade. Younger student can decorate bikes in college colors and make a college banner for the handlebars.
87. Visit the college mailroom instead of a local post office.
88. Study jobs and careers on a college campus.
89. Take a white t-shirt and make your own college t-shirts.

90. Write a song about college.
91. Hold college application nights for students, where they can get adult assistance and encouragement. Make it fun! Younger students could plan the event as a leadership project.
92. Take pictures when visiting a campus and have students present their experience to younger students.
93. Find out where favorite authors went to college.
94. Check out the CFES website (www.collegefes.org) to learn about college activities.
95. Where did famous inventors go to college?
96. Have students make a list of all the people who could help support them in their quest for college.
97. Make a shoebox collage with college names, facts, and interesting tidbits.
98. Press leaves from campus and learn the names of all the trees on a college campus.
99. Turn it into a book and donate it to the college library.
100. Have students make posters to recruit college mentors. Hang posters on campus.
101. Create a list of 101 pathways to college activities to share with others.