**Title:** Life Poster with Goals and Aspirations by Carole C. Nase

**Audience:** Kindergarten through Fifth grade English as a Second Language students. Small groups of 2-5 students for each grade level.

**Time Duration:** Seven separate lessons for 30 minutes a piece. 3 1/2 hours total.

**Big Idea/ Essential Question:** What would you like to be when you grow up? What skills do you need to get there? What are things that you are good at now? What are things that you are grateful for in your life?

**Objectives:**

**ELP. Standard #5** conduct research and evaluate and communicate findings to answer questions or solve problems.

**ELP Standard #10** make accurate use of standard English to communicate in grade- appropriate speech and writing.

**ELP Standard #1** construct meaning from oral presentations and literary and informational text through grade-appropriate listening, reading, and viewing.

Students will discuss what they want to be when the grow up. Students will research careers and write about the skills that are needed to do this type of career. They will consider and discuss their strengths. They will also focus on what they are grateful for right now and gifts that they currently have. They will write these strengths on their poster.

**Props and materials:** 1. Poster boards 2. Photograph pictures of students holding a white board with their career choice written on it. 3. I-pads to use for research or books with careers in them. 4. Colored pencils, markers or gel pens. 4. White construction paper. 5. Glue sticks. 6. Notebook paper

**Learning Strategies** Students will have the opportunity to talk together about their thoughts about a career. What they think they would like about this type of career and why they think they would enjoy it.

**Motivation (Build background)** Tell students that I knew that I wanted to be a teacher when I was in third grade. Show them the picture of me teaching my stuffed animals. Tell them that I already can see gifts in them and that they need to think about what they love doing.

**Presentation** Today we are going to start our end of the year project. We are going to make a poster about you. Things that you love, things that you have been thinking about doing in your life and gifts and strengths that you have. Let's first of all talk about what you think you would enjoy doing. What jobs have you thought about?

**Meaningful activities:**

**Day 1**

Have students discuss together what they have thought about doing. Have each student write in their notebook 1 to 3 jobs that they would like to do. After they have these written ask them individually what they think the best kind of job for them would be. I will write your dream job on a white board and you can hold it while I take a picture of you. While I am taking pictures have other students writing in their notebooks why they think this would be a good job for them. Use the sentence frame... I think a good job for me would be becoming a \_\_\_\_\_\_. I think this because\_\_\_\_\_. I would like to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_while I am at this job.

**Review "**Today we discussed jobs that we would like to do and we wrote about why we think this would be a good job. We also took pictures of what we would like to do. I will get these developed and the next time we work we will have our pictures to glue onto our poster boards."

**Day 2 and Day 3** (After developing the pictures of students.)

Hand out pictures of students. Then have them use their I-pads or books to research about that career. Have them answer questions about their choice. What kinds of things will I get to do at this type of job? What kind of skills will I need? How much schooling will I need? How many years will it take? What kinds of subjects are good for me to concentrate on? How can I learn more so I can be ready for this type of job? What type of income will I be able to earn? Have students come up with more questions to answer. Research for 2 days. Have them take notes on notebook paper. Gather pictures of students back to save for gluing onto the poster board at the end.

**Review** "Today we researched different careers and the skills that we need to do this job. Tomorrow we will research again and write more notes. Then the next day we will write all about it in our neatest handwriting."

**Day 4** Write out a final neat copy. Have students write a page about their career choice. Students will hand in their work and it will be graded according to their English Language Proficiency level and according to grade appropriate use of grammar.

**Review- "**Today we wrote in our neatest handwriting and we will be using this on our poster boards. Tomorrow we will be writing a huge list of things that we are grateful for in our lives. Be thinking of what you will be writing down. It can be little things like eating a good breakfast in the morning or hearing the birds singing in the morning or building with Legos or painting a picture or reading a book. Just think of things that you love to do and things that make you happy."

**Day 5** Bring in my gratitude journal. Show students how I try to focus on what I am grateful for and explain that that is what gives me hope and motivation to keep going. Have students write out a list of things that they are grateful for in their life. This could be in a color using a gel pen. The purpose of this is to include things that are going well in their life. By focusing on the positive students will be able to have hope. Have students write at least 10 things in their neatest handwriting.

**Review "**Today we wrote things that we are thankful for in our lives. We will put our whole poster together tomorrow. If you have anything else you would like to add to it like another picture or something else we can add it tomorrow."

**Day 6-** This is the day to put our project together. Have students choose a color for their poster board. Have them glue their picture, research about careers and gratitude section. Have students add any extra drawings or pictures to their poster. When it is completed, laminate it so they can save it forever.

**Day 7-** This is the final day when students can share their posters with one another and practice listening to one another and asking questions. Be sure to keep a copy of their pictures in our classroom for the following year. Send posters home as an end of the year project.

\*\*\*Following are pictures of some of my students from **Day 1** of our project. They will be using these pictures on their posters. Their inspirations and goals, in spite of many of them living in poverty, is inspiring!









