# **‘Idea Generator’ Lesson**

Grades 6-12

Subject areas:

* Language Arts
* Entrepreneurship 110
* Personal Development and Career Planning

## Overview

In this lesson students will identify their passions, interests, and future aspirations. Students will be encouraged to participate in class and small group discussions to share their interests and passions.

## What you’ll need

* Student Handout “Idea Generator 3.10” (attached)
* Paper copies of worksheet
* White board
* Internet access
* Projector
* Speakers
* Pencils for students

## Instructions

Activity 1: Begin class by showing students the Ted Talk video ‘Why some of us don’t have one true calling’ by Emilie Wapnick. (Link in the student handout)

Activity 2: In this activity students will come up with a list of things that they love/like in life. This can be facilitated through a Think-Pair-Share activity. Give students a few minutes to work independently and tell them to come up with at least five things the like/love. When students are done have them share with their partner or table groups. After they have had time to discuss with their peers, open the conversation up to the whole class. Encourage students that during the class conversation to add to their lists if someone says something they really like.

Activity 3: In this activity students will complete another list. They will do this by asking themselves ten questions. Go over these questions with students and have them answer. This can be employed also by ‘Think-Pair-Share’ or done individually.

Activity 4: After students have created their two lists, it is time for them to write out future aspirations. Tell students that no goal is to big. They will write out future goals for 3 months from now, 1 year from now, 3 years from now, and lifetime goals.

Activity 5: The last activity will allow students to draw comparisons from the three lists they have created and write out the top three or five that are similar. They are to picture doing these things and making a life/career out of it and will write down one goal to achieve doing these things as a career.

New Brunswick Curriculum outcomes

English 6-8

* GCO 1: Students will be expected to speak and listen to explore, extend, clarify, and reflect on their thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences.
* GCO 2: Students will be expected to communicate information and ideas effectively and clearly, and to respond personally and critically. clearly, and to respond personally and critically.
* GCO 8: Students will be expected to use writing and other ways of representing to explore, clarify, and reflect on their thoughts, feelings, experiences, and learnings; and to use clarify, and reflect on their thoughts, feelings, experiences, and learnings; and to use their imagination. their imagination.

Entrepreneurship 110

* SCO 1.2: Students will prioritize the attributes associated with successful entrepreneurs
* SCO 1.4: Students will identify alternative ways to start a business

Personal Development and Career Planning K-12

* SCO 1.1 Each student will be expected to demonstrate the ability to accept, respect, and understand him/herself and other.
* SCO 3.1 Each student will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the important linkages between educational achievement and career opportunities.
* SCO 3.3: Each student will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between personal qualities and work.

## New Brunswick Global Competencies

* Communication
* Self-Awareness and Self-Management
* Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving
* Collaboration
* Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship

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**Step 1:** Watch the Emilie Wapnick Ted Talk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sZdcB6bjI8>

**Step 2:** List at a minimum 5 things that you like/love in your life. Choose three to write a short memory as to why you like/love these things.

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**Step 3:** Next, ask yourself these questions: These questions are meant to help you identify the activities that make you light up—the things you love to do more than anything else.  These questions will help you zero in on them.

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| 1. When I was a kid I dreamed of…….. 2. I love books, movies, or T.V. shows about……. 3. If I had a week off school and could do whatever I want, I would……… 4. Most people don’t know this about me, but I really enjoy……… 5. I am the go-to person when my friends need help with………… 6. If I could star in my own how-to TV show it would be about………. 7. If I were to make a homemade gift it would involve………. 8. I’ve tried it only once or twice, but I really enjoy………. 9. I get most excited about……. 10. If I won first prize in a talent show it would be for……… |

**Your Passion Roadmap**

A picture containing text, vector graphics

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**Step 4:** Create a Wishlist to help you define your values and goals. Think as big or small as you want! Use the following sentence to get you started. If I could do anything, be anything, or have anything, what would it be?

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| Today: Icon, calendar  Description automatically generated  3 Months from now:  1 Year from now:  3 Years from now:  Lifetime goals: |

**Step 5:** Now look at all three lists. **What Are the similarities?**  Choose at least three that are most important to you.  Try to picture your life doing only those activities.  What would those activities be?

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| --- |
| **Top 5 Things:** |
| **1)** |
| **2)** |
| **3)** |
| **4)** |
| **5)** |