

NAME:

DATE:



AN INTRODUCTION TO THE GOOD PROJECT LESSON PLANS

WHY ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT “GOOD WORK” WHEN WE ARE STILL IN SCHOOL?

The work you do in school sets the stage for the work that you will do in your future career. We all already make decisions every day related to what can be called our “work,” whether that is our work as a student, as part of a club, volunteering, as part of a business, or something else. You are forming habits, skills, and values now as a student that will inform your future decisions as a professional.

WHERE DID THESE IDEAS COME FROM?

The concepts and frameworks that these lessons are based on came out of decades of research. Researchers at The Good Project (located at The Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, MA USA) interviewed nearly 2,000 professionals in a variety of fields. They found that when someone was doing “good work” in their profession, there were key markers to their approach. The way they considered their work and their role in the context of society, the bar they set for themselves and others, the culture of their field and how they contributed to that atmosphere—these are all examples of the factors that led professionals to do “good work”—or not.

WHAT ARE THE LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE?

- You will learn the core concepts of “good work” and how it is defined.
- You will work to develop habits of reflection through the examination of real-life dilemmas and activities.
- You will be able to explore your own values and beliefs about work—as students and as future professionals.
- You will learn to engage in constructive dialogue with others whose opinions, beliefs, and values, may differ from your own. You will learn to share your thoughts and receive feedback from others.

HOW WILL WE BE LEARNING ABOUT GOOD WORK?

Throughout the lessons, we will use strategies such as thinking routines, reflection questions, and discussion to help you to understand what good work means to you. As examples, you will explore what you value most in your work and what responsibilities you feel weigh most heavily when completing your work.

You will save the work you create in a “Good Work Portfolio”. This portfolio will allow you and your teacher to see what you are learning and track the evolution of your thinking.

The lessons are broken down into four separate units. Each unit comes with a rubric to assess your understanding of key concepts. At the conclusion of each unit, you will complete a self-reflection assessment, examining your progress related to each of the points within the rubric for that unit.