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BY:

girlstart

SCIENCE ★ TECHNOLOGY ★ ENGINEERING ★ MATH

Dream Big

What better way to start the New Year than by thinking about your goals and dreams! When coming up with dreams and goals, we not only need to think big, but also think about the steps it will take to get there. Explore the exciting possibilities of your future as you make a puzzle to piece together your goals and dreams. Then, write a letter to yourself to remember your goals and dreams later on!

Materials:

- Puzzle template (attached to this activity)
- Scissors
- Paint pens/sharpies/markers/crayons
- Paper (cardstock or colored construction paper is best)
- Pencil

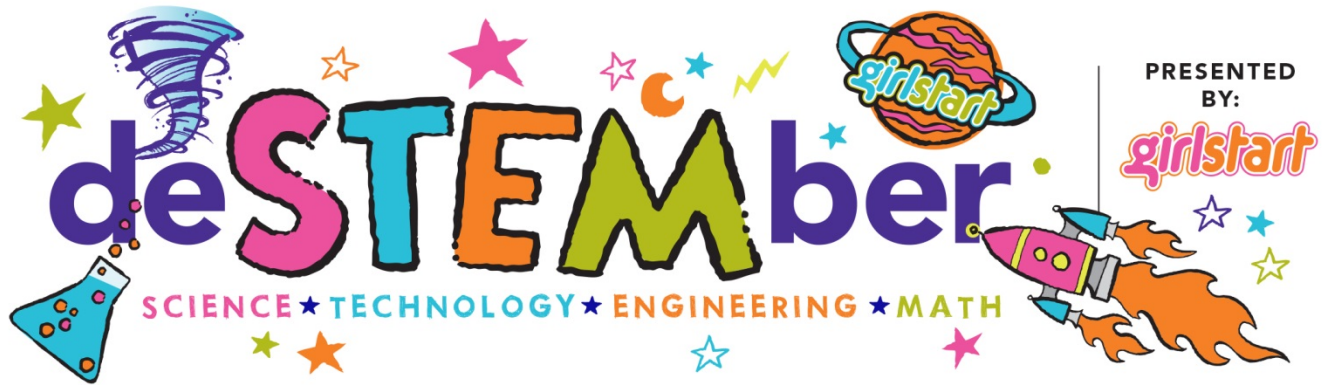
How To:

1. Start by looking inside yourself and think about your goals and dreams. Ask yourself these questions and jot down your answers on a piece of paper:
 - Can you think of any goals you set when you were younger? How have you achieved those goals?
 - What is your favorite subject in school? How could you apply that interest and excitement to a future career?
 - If you could be famous for one thing, what would it be?
 - What steps need to be taken to achieve the goals and dreams you have come up with?
2. Print out the puzzle attached to this activity (cardstock or thicker paper is best).
3. Cut out the 6 puzzle pieces.
4. Each puzzle piece represents a step in your education to get to your dream job. Label, color and decorate each puzzle piece following this guide:
 - Step 1: Elementary School
 - Step 2: Middle School
 - Step 3: High School
 - Step 4: College
 - Step 5: Graduate School/Professional Program
 - Step 6: Career

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5. Now glue your puzzle pieces together onto another piece of paper. The glue that holds your puzzle together represents your family and friends who will support you through each step you take to achieve your goals and dreams.
6. Now write a letter about your hopes, dreams, and aspirations. You can either address it to your future self or talk about what you hope to have achieved by age 16, 25, or even 40. Or you can write it to yourself now, to remind yourself why you need to work hard every day in school. As you grow and change, so will your goals, and your letter can help you keep track of your changes.
7. Decorate your letter to represent your dreams.
8. Keep your letter and puzzle somewhere safe to look back on to remind you of your goals and dreams.

How Does It Work?

'Piecing Together Our Dreams' Puzzle

When you look at your puzzle, think about how each piece represents the education and goals you need to achieve your dreams. Some of us need more education than others or take different routes to accomplish our goals, but we all need support, such as friends and family, to achieve our goals. You need all these elements to achieve your dreams! Think about what education and support you need to achieve success.

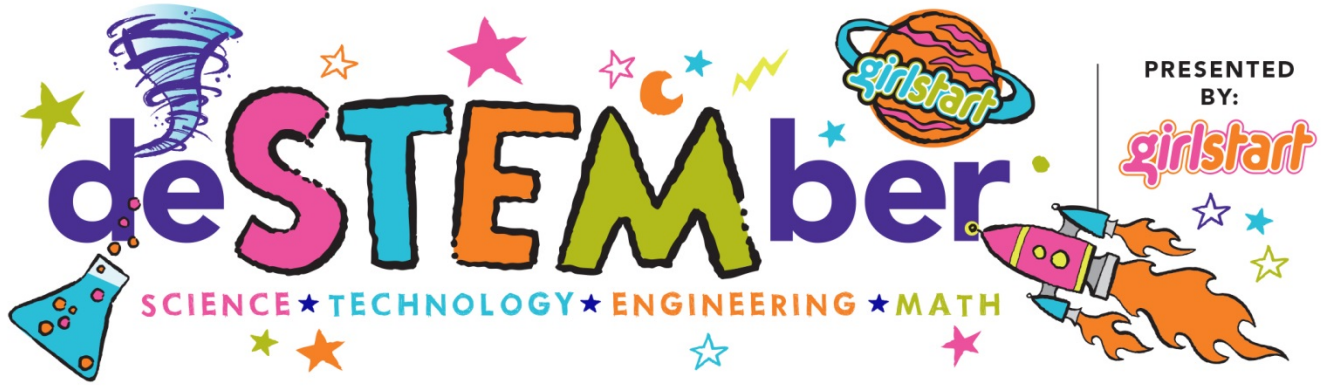
Letter to Self

Did you know only 2% of people write down their goals? It is more likely you will accomplish your goals if you write them down! Writing down your goals can help you clarify what you want, help motivate you to take action, and allow you to celebrate your accomplishments! What are some things you need to know to be able to accomplish your dreams? What type of knowledge do you need to acquire? Where do you want to go to college?

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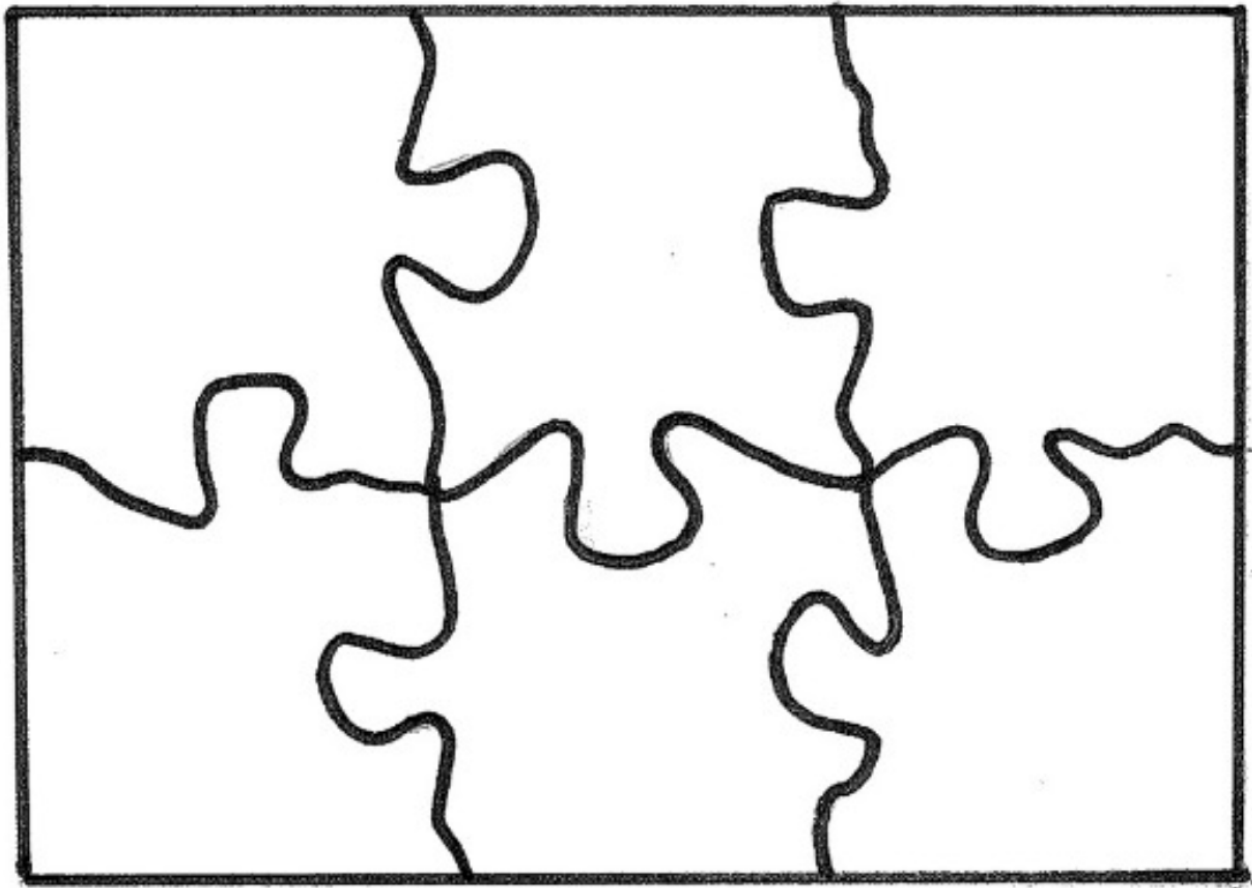
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