

**What Would You Do If You Knew You Couldn't Fail?
Five Washington Leaders Discuss Their Paths To Success**

Lesson Plan

Description

This lesson seeks to provide inspiration to traditionally under-represented groups by presenting real life examples of what is possible when facing seemingly insurmountable obstacles. To that end the WSBA's Leadership Institute 2006 Fellows developed and produced a video featuring successful individuals from diverse backgrounds, and in diverse professions. The video includes five four-minute inspirational video clips in English with Spanish subtitles, with the following features:

- **Five successful and dynamic professionals who will share their success stories:**
 - **Doug Chin, author, historian, civil rights activist, Seattle, WA.**
 - **Rex Quaempts, physician, Indian Health Service, Yakima, WA.**
 - **Jeffrey Robinson, criminal defense attorney, Seattle, WA.**
 - **Kellye Testy, Dean of Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, WA.**
 - **Vickie Ybarra, Director of Planning and Development for the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic and member of Yakima School District School Board, Yakima, WA.**

Audience

Middle school students in grades 6-8

High school students in grades 9-12

Objectives

At the end of the lesson, students will be better able to:

- 1. Identify barriers individuals from diverse backgrounds faced in reaching their career goals and which barriers they may still face today.**
- 2. Describe strategies that these individuals used to overcome obstacles.**
- 3. Identify strategies that students could use to achieve their own goals, despite possible barriers.**
- 4. Be motivated to overcome any obstacles students may face in achieving their own goals.**

Time

Approximately 60 minutes

identify the things that motivated the speakers to continue down their paths.

- **Examples of obstacles: financial, family, discrimination based on race, gender, sexuality**

Tell the students to write out the answers for each presenter.

- 4. Show the video
(15 minutes)**

**Discuss the video
(20 minutes)**

After the video is over, go through each of the five presenters and have the student discuss their answers on the handout. Follow-up with the following questions:

- **Which story was the most interesting to you? Why?**
- **Were you able to relate to any of the interviewees? Who? Why?**
- **What did you learn from the stories?**

- 6. Complete the survey, which is attached.
(4 minutes)**

- 7. Conclusion
(1 minute)**

Reiterate to the students that the purpose of this exercise was to motivate them; identify the obstacles they may face; and identify the strategies they can use to overcome those obstacles.

What Would You Do If You Knew You Couldn't Fail? Five Washington Leaders Discuss Their Paths To Success

	OBSTACLE	STRATEGY USED TO OVERCOME OBSTACLE	ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES THAT MIGHT BE USED?
<p>Doug Chin</p> <p>Career Achievements:</p>			
<p>Rex Quaempts</p> <p>Career Achievements:</p>			
<p>Jeffrey Robinson</p> <p>Career Achievements:</p>			
<p>Kellye Testy</p> <p>Career Achievements:</p>			
<p>Vickie Ybarra</p> <p>Career Achievements:</p>			

**What Would You Do If You Knew You Couldn't Fail?
Five Washington Leaders Discuss Their Paths To Success**

Evaluation Form

1. Overall, I would rate this program (please circle one):

Note: On the scale provided below, 1 is low and 5 is high:

1 2 3 4 5

2. I think the most important part of this program was:

3. One new thing I learn was:

4. Here is something I might do as a result of attending this program:

5. Here is something about the program I wish had been different:

6. My comments to the program organizers are: