

Future Corners

Hope, future vision, and purposeful action.



FOUNDATIONAL MESSAGE

Your future is worth thinking about.



NOTICE



CONNECT



STRENGTHEN



DISCOVER THE WHY



ENVISION



Future Corners

Focus: Hope, future vision, and purposeful action

Activity Summary

Students move to one of four areas of the room representing a different way of thinking about the future: who they want to be, what they want to be able to do, what they want their life to include, or how they want to make a difference. After briefly reflecting in that space, students pick up a Future Me card and return to their seat to identify one thing they hope is true about their future and one small thing they can begin working on this year.

Why it matters

Being future-ready does not mean having a career picked out or knowing exactly what life will look like. It means beginning to think about who you want to become, what you want to be able to do, what you want your life to include, and how you might contribute.

Movement provides an easy starting point for that reflection.

Set Up the Room

Designate four areas:

THE FOUR FUTURE CORNERS

FRONT LEFT

WHO I WANT TO BE

FRONT RIGHT

WHAT I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO

BACK LEFT

WHAT I WANT MY LIFE TO INCLUDE

BACK RIGHT

**HOW I WANT TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

These can also be displayed using the same four-quadrant slide format as Day 2.

Teacher Framing

“Yesterday we worked backward from some choices we might want in the future to things we’re doing right now.”

THEN

“Today we’re going to think about the future in a slightly different way.”

“You still don’t need to know exactly what job you want, where you’re going to live, or what your whole life will look like.”

THEN

“We’re just going to think about one direction that matters to you.”

1

STEP 1

Move to a Future Corner

“Everybody stand up.”

► Point out the four areas.

“Look at the four ideas around the room.”

THEN

“Don’t overthink it. Move to the one you feel like you’d most like to think about right now.”

► Students move.

2

STEP 2

Think About Your Prompt

- Once students arrive, display or read the question for each area.

WHO I WANT TO BE

“What is one quality you hope describes you in the future?”

Examples: Kind, confident, dependable, courageous, creative, hardworking, patient.

WHAT I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO

“What is one thing you hope you’re really good at someday?”

Examples: Communicating, managing money, solving problems, creating things, leading, helping people, learning new things.

WHAT I WANT MY LIFE TO INCLUDE

“What is one thing you hope is part of your life?”

Examples: Family, meaningful work, creativity, travel, financial stability, adventure, friendships, learning.

HOW I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

“Who or what do you hope you’re able to help someday?”

Examples: Family, friends, a community, people in need, animals, the environment, or something they care about.

- Give students 20–30 seconds simply to think.

No pair share is required.

3

STEP 3

Pick Up a Future Me Card

“Now leave your corner, come to the front, and grab a Future Me card. Then take it back to your seat.”

Future Me Card

FUTURE ME

One thing I hope is true about my future is...

One thing I can work on this year that could help me move in that direction is...

© WhyTry LLC 2026

“Use the corner you chose to help you get started. You can also write something completely different. This is your future.”

► Give students a minute or two.

Teacher Example

“Maybe I chose ‘Who I Want to Be,’ and I decided I want to be someone people can depend on.”

THEN

“One thing I could work on this year might be following through when I tell someone I’m going to do something.”

EMPHASIZE

“The step doesn’t need to be huge.”

Close

“You don’t need your whole future figured out.”

THEN

“But your future is worth thinking about. The more you think about what matters to you, the easier it becomes to see why the choices you make today can matter.”

FINISH WITH

“You don’t need a perfect plan. You just need a direction and a next step.”

Your future is worth thinking about.

ACTIVITY PATTERN

MOVE > CHOOSE A DIRECTION > REFLECT > TAKE ONE STEP

The First Five Progression

DAY 1 — NOTICE



Name Check

You matter here.

DAY 2 — CONNECT



Pick, Move, Connect

We're better when we connect.

DAY 3 — STRENGTHEN



Pair Up & Build

You have strengths you can build on.

DAY 4 — DISCOVER THE WHY



Work It Back

What you do here can matter to your future.

DAY 5 — ENVISION



Future Corners

Your future is worth thinking about.

The Bigger Story

Across the five days, students move through a deliberate progression:

WHAT STUDENTS EXPERIENCE

YOU MATTER > CONNECT > BUILD > SEE THE WHY > LOOK AHEAD

Or, from the teacher's perspective:

WHAT THE TEACHER IS BUILDING

Recognition > Connection > Growth > Relevance > Vision

How students experience the five days

There is also a progression in how students experience the activities:

- DAY 1** Move, meet, and learn names.
- DAY 2** Move and discover common ground.
- DAY 3** Move, pair up, and recognize strengths.
- DAY 4** Move and physically connect school to future possibilities.
- DAY 5** Move toward a future direction, then privately reflect on one next step.

The goal is not to accomplish everything in five minutes.

Five Messages

The goal is to send five small but powerful messages during the first five days of school:

- 1 **You matter here.**
- 2 **We're better when we connect.**
- 3 **You have strengths you can build on.**
- 4 **What you do here can matter to your future.**
- 5 **Your future is worth thinking about.**



NOTICE



CONNECT



STRENGTHEN



DISCOVER THE WHY



ENVISION



Printable: Future Me Card

Print this page and cut along the dashed lines. One sheet makes two cards. Students keep the card after Day 5.

FUTURE ME

One thing I hope is true about my future is...

One thing I can work on this year that could help me move in that direction is...

© WhyTry LLC 2026

FUTURE ME

One thing I hope is true about my future is...

One thing I can work on this year that could help me move in that direction is...

© WhyTry LLC 2026