

Unit 1: Getting Started

Lesson Overviews

Unit Purpose: The purpose of Unit 1 is to familiarize students with the concepts of self-awareness and self-advocacy, provide students opportunities to identify and discuss their strengths and needs, and help them identify questions they have regarding self-awareness and self-advocacy. Additionally, students are introduced to the KWL chart and the ME! Book, both of which are used throughout the remaining lessons and units.

Lesson 1: Understanding Self-Awareness & Self-Advocacy

Objectives

Students will:

1. define self-awareness and self-advocacy
2. identify examples of self-awareness and self-advocacy
3. identify personal strengths, weaknesses, likes, and dislikes
4. use retelling skills to participate in oral presentation (Extension Activity)
5. complete the ME! Scale

Materials

1. Worksheet 1-1: Understanding Self-Awareness and Self-Advocacy
2. Student ME! Scale
3. Parent/guardian YOU! Scale

Activities and Procedures: Students begin Lesson 1 by listening to and analyzing a scenario read to them by the teacher. Once students have discussed the scenario, they complete Worksheet 1-1: Understanding Self-Awareness and Self-Advocacy. As they complete worksheet 1-1, students define the terms self-awareness and self-advocacy and answer a series of questions requiring them to identify personal likes, dislikes, strengths, and weaknesses. Once students finish worksheet 1-1, they each complete a copy of the ME! Scale, which should take approximately 10 minutes. Students must also take home a copy of the YOU! Scale to be completed by a parent or guardian. Each student will need a copy of the completed YOU! Scale to use in Lesson 2.

Student Evaluation:

1. Completion of ME! Scale
2. Completed worksheet 1-1: Understanding Self-Awareness and Self-Advocacy
3. Verbal participation during class discussion

Extension Activity: Lesson 1 includes one Extension Activity. For the activity, students are asked to revisit the scenario read at the beginning of Lesson 1. Students work in small groups to change the scenario by including examples of self-awareness and self-advocacy. Each