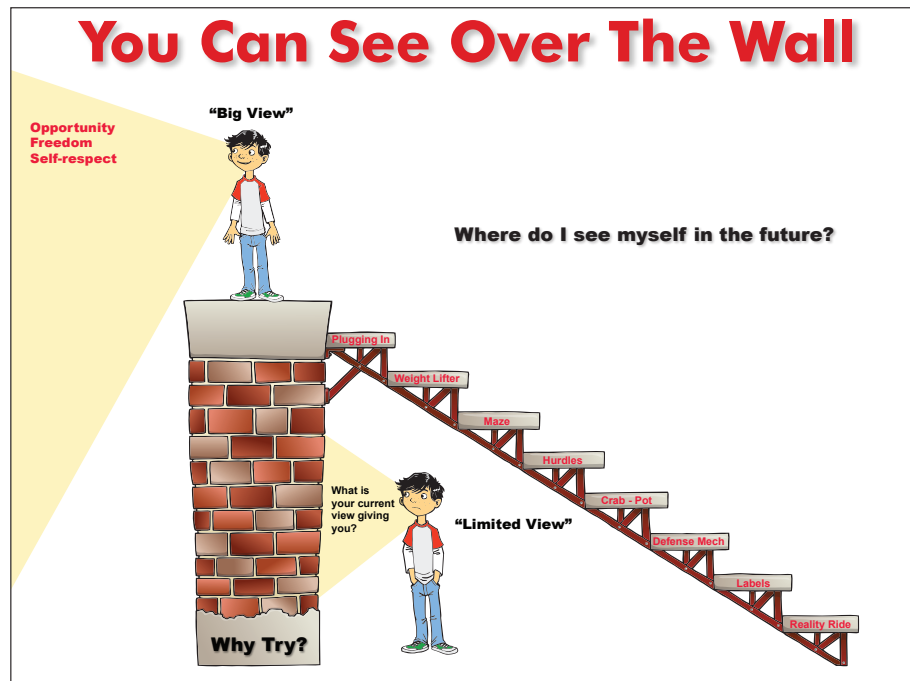


The Wall

Introduction

Key Concept:

When you have a clear vision of your future, you have hope for something better, and life's challenges become nothing but temporary obstacles. When you have a limited perspective, it is hard to see beyond the day-to-day challenges, and impossible to dream of a brighter future.



Vocabulary

- Vision
- Perspective
- Big view
- Limited view
- Options
- Dreams
- Sacrifice
- Achieve

Secondary Concepts:

- If you feel like you're standing in front of a wall of problems that you can't see past, then you are not likely to get anywhere in life.
- The lessons in this manual will help you get to the top of the wall.
- When you have a "big picture," you understand better how to obtain opportunity, freedom, and self-respect in your life.

Personalize your Lesson:

- How does a limited view of your future affect you?
- How has having a limited view impacted your motivation?
- How does having a long-term vision help you deal with difficult challenges in your life?
- How would your students' lives be different if they could see the "big picture"?

Activity:

To introduce this lesson, complete the attention activity "Count the F's." (See the "Learning Activities" section under "The Wall.")

The Wall

Lesson Plan: Introducing The Wall

The wall represents the challenges and problems you face. If you feel like you are standing in front of a wall that you can't see past, then you are not likely to get anywhere in life. When you are ready to make a change in your life, you will need to take the steps that will help you climb to the top of the wall. The visual analogies we have learned thus far will help you get to the top of the wall. Once there, you can see where you want to go and how to get opportunity, freedom, and self-respect.

Overview

This picture teaches students that as they climb the steps, their motivation increases because their limited view starts to become the big view, which allows them to see more options. Often students are standing too close to the wall, so they only see their challenge. If they see only from the limited view, acting out will often seem like the best option or the only option. Overcoming challenges may seem impossible or overwhelming from students' current view.

Keep reminding students why they should continue to try when they are dealing with difficult challenges. It's worth trying because challenges can be overcome by applying the principles taught in this program. Challenge students to apply each one of these principles to their life one step at a time and to see if they can get the Big View! Why try? Because getting the big view and having more opportunity, freedom, and self-respect is worth the sacrifice that it takes to climb each step.

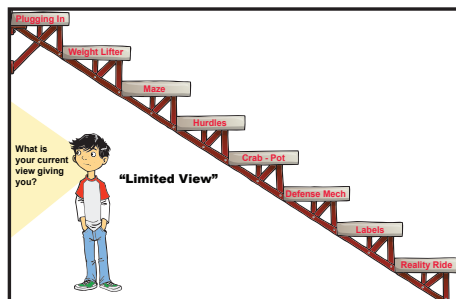
The Wall

Lesson Plan: Visual Analogy Walkthrough

1. The 9 Steps

Use your own insight and creativity to review with students the principles you have taught; principles that will lead them to the big view. Remind students that the following nine steps in the WhyTry Program are steps to reaching their goals and dreams.

1. Remember the reality or the consequences of the crash, and constantly identify goals that motivate you to stop crashing.
2. Remember the real you, and show through your positive actions that any negative label you have been given is wrong.



3. Be strong and choose positive defense mechanisms, even when people around you choose negative defenses.
4. Never let others pull you down, and put effort into pushing others up.
5. If you trip, jump back up and apply over and over each of the

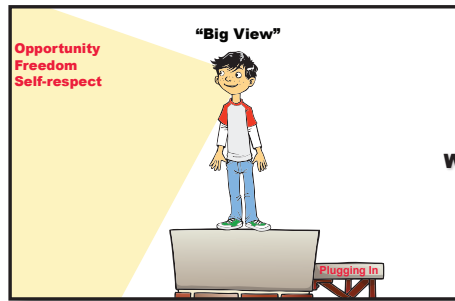
nine principles in the program.

6. Put your desire, time, and effort into achieving positive goals that motivate you.
7. Use resistance (rules, laws, self-discipline) to make you stronger, not weaker.
8. Identify positive people who can help achieve your goals.
9. If you don't know the answer to the question "Why try?" you likely have the limited view. Keep reminding yourself that to get the big view, you need to stop crashing, and to instead apply the above eight steps over and over!

2. Application

To demonstrate to the class the practical application of the nine WhyTry analogies, find the biography of someone who has overcome tremendous odds or challenges to become successful. One that is recommended is a book about Jim Abbott, a one-handed baseball player who won an Olympic gold medal and pitched a no-hitter for the Yankees. His story is very compelling and is easily applicable to WhyTry steps. Once you have selected a biography, read it aloud to your class.

After reading the story of Jim Abbott or another applicable individual, put up the poster of seeing over the wall. Have each of the steps covered with long strips of blank paper and explain to the students that if



they are having trouble seeing their dreams or goals, they need to look at the following steps and see which one they are stumbling on.

One by one, take off the paper and put on the overhead or on the board the corresponding poster that you taught initially with that analogy. Then ask the students to explain the analogy and how that analogy applies to the life of the individual you read about.

For example, The first step is

the “Reality Ride.” Put the picture of the roller coaster on the board or overhead. Ask the students to explain what this picture means. Then have them tell what they thought the individual’s ride on the reality ride was like. Then uncover the next step.

The next step is “Labels.” On the overhead or board, put up the picture of the cans. Ask the students to explain the picture. Then ask them what labels -- positive and negative -- people gave to the person in the bio. Ask them who they thought the “real” individual was and how he or she made that label stick. Continue in this way through each analogy until students have explained each picture and related each one to the individual’s life experiences.

3. Conclusion

Encourage students to always focus and keep a clear vision of their dreams and goals. This is very important in getting and keeping the big view. Help students be able to identify when they are on top of the wall according to the following signs:



- You’re helping, not hurting, yourself or others.
- When you have a setback, you feel motivation to keep trying.
- You make tough decisions

every day that keep you on the track to your dreams and goals.

- You see more options for your life.
- You have more freedom and trust from others.
- You have self-respect.
- You make good choices because you know you have great value and potential.

4. Review Lesson

Vocabulary

For the review lesson, have students define the vocabulary words listed in the introductory page of this chapter in their WhyTry Journals. This will help increase understanding

of the analogy and give you an opportunity to assess comprehension and retention from the overview lesson.

Visual analogy

In their WhyTry Journals, students have a copy of the visual analogy. Have students

use this to do a review/walk-through of the analogy. Have them make notes, answer questions, or use a personal example to explain the concept.

5. Reflection Question

Until the next WhyTry class, ask students to consider the Wall reflection question:

Where do I see myself in the future?

