



## ***Activity Cluster Plan: School Spirit***

### ***Goal:***

Preparing for college takes a lot of planning. Presenting the idea in younger grades can help students discover a world of excitement as they think about their future goals.

***This activity cluster will introduce students to college by exploring the concept of school spirit.***

### ***Activity Set One: Kindergarten – First Grade***

Cheering for a team can help students show their support. Most students have seen fan gear for different sports teams or organizations. Read this section to your students and discuss ways they can display their school spirit right now. Then have your students go through the activities and assist them if they need help. If possible, bring a foam finger to class so students can have a visual aid.

### ***Activity Set Two: Second – Third Grade***

As students progress, they learn more about their current school and start to think about the school they'll move to next. Speak with students about getting involved with different activities. Ask them if they already belong to a club or local organization. Guide your students through the instructions and then have them complete the activities. Encourage your students to find some similarities between going to college and going to elementary school (i.e. school motto, weekly updates, school activities, etc.). To show an example of school spirit, play your college fight song in class.

### ***Activity Set Three: Fourth – Fifth Grade***

Older students will be able to identify other forms of school spirit. Encourage them to think about nearby colleges and the type of spirit gear they have seen for those schools. Walk your students through the readings and activities. Then, if possible, have a local college student or recruiter come speak to the class about school spirit and college life.

### ***Review:***

Introducing young students to college life through the idea of school spirit helps them understand the concept of higher education. Encourage students to ask their parents and other adults about college. Always remind your students that college is a possibility for them.

### ***Parent Activity:***

Talk with your student about college, showing them pictures of your college days or of others you know. If you didn't attend college, explain why and let them know they're definitely college material. Also, tour a local campus to help your student make the connection between elementary school and college.