



- Guidance Lesson -

Fill in the Gaps

Objective: Provide an introductory opportunity for students to share their knowledge or perceptions of a topic and offer the teacher/counselor a baseline for future awareness topic activities/lessons.

Estimated Time: 15-30 minutes

Materials: poster sheets/large pieces of butcher paper, markers

Activity/Discussion:

1. **Before lesson:** label poster sheets with an awareness topic, such as bullying, drugs, or depression with large letters written in the middle. Decide how you want your class to be grouped and make enough posters for each group to have one.
2. Once students are grouped(3-4 students is ideal) provide them with markers and the awareness poster.
3. Instruct the students to draw a line down the center of the poster to divide it into two sections. Have them label the left side “what we know” and the right side “what we want to know”.
4. Set a timer for 5 minutes and direct students to write, “graffiti” style, as many facts or thoughts they have on the topic in the left section labeled “what we know”.
5. Now set the timer for 5 more minutes and ask the students to fill in the right side “what we want to know” section with questions or concerns they may have, as well as, resources they may need to assist them.
6. Provide time for students to share out with the class or allow them time to do a “gallery” walk so that they can see how other groups responded.

This activity can serve as a springboard to more targeted guidance lessons and possible needs on your campus. It can also be an eye-opening experience for students as they see that they may not be alone in their concerns or misconceptions on an issue.