
Project-Based Learning

Creating and Using SMART Goals



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Your Facilitator



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What is a Goal?

The process of thinking about your ideal future and letting that vision motivate you to turn that vision into reality.

Why Is Goal Setting Important?

Here are some reasons why goal setting matters:

Motivation: Goal setting motivates you to achieve what you want or need.

Focus: Without goals we can drift from one thing to another, resulting in a feeling that time has been wasted on things that are irrelevant, irresponsible or unimportant.

If you don't know where you are headed, any path will get you there.

S.M.A.R.T. GOALS

S	Specific
M	Measurable
A	Achievable
R	Relevant
T	Time Bound

Be Specific

- Goals should be **straightforward** and emphasize what you want to happen.
 - Specific is the **who, what, why, and how** of the SMART model.
 - WHO are you trying to impact
 - WHAT are you going to do? Use action words such as direct, organize, coordinate, lead, develop, plan, build, participate, etc.
 - WHY is this important to do at this time? What do you want to ultimately accomplish?
 - HOW are you going to do it?
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Measurable



Goals should be written so that you know whether or not you accomplished what you wanted to accomplish.

- Measurable Goals should:
 - Allow you to measure your progress
 - Keep you on track
 - Spur you on
 - Allow you to see the change occur

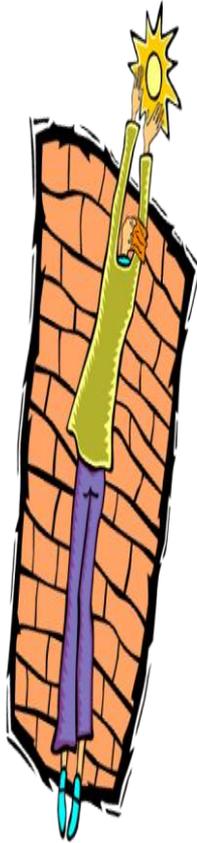
If you can't measure it, you can't manage it.

Achievable

Goals should be within reasonable reach. They should not be too easy to attain, but not too difficult to attain either.

Achievable goals should challenge or stretch you slightly so you feel you can do it, but also feel you must really commit.

Goals that are too far out of your reach won't motivate you, but only frustrate you.



Relevant

Goal should relate and connect to your project and your campus/school.

To be relevant:

- Your goals should connect to the identified campus/school/student need.
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Time Bound

Set a time frame for the goal: next week, in three months, at the end of the activity. Putting an end point on your goal gives you a **clear target** to work toward.

Without a time limit, there's no urgency to start taking action now.

The time frame must be measurable, achievable and relevant.

S.M.A.R.T. Goal Diagram

80% of students identified as in-need, and who
A S
attend regularly, will show increased proficiency
S
on sequencing and context skills at the end
R T
of the Journalism Club activity as measured by
benchmark assessments.
M

Pre and Post Assessment

- **Written** – short assessment with questions that students would not likely be able to answer correctly prior to activity
 - **Demonstration** – have students perform a task that prior to the activity, they would not likely be able to perform proficiently
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Take It To The Discussion Board

- Questions
 - Practice and get feedback
 - Ideas on pre- and post-assessments
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