

Lesson 22: Exploring Online College Resources

Objective: Students will review the various types of college systems by learning about and exploring various college search and system-wide websites.

Time Needed: 25 minutes

Vocabulary:

Use instructional techniques such as a Word Wall or the Self-Selected Vocabulary Strategy to teach the contextual meanings of the following vocabulary words. These techniques are described in more detail in the “Vocabulary Activities Teacher Guide.”

Daily Vocabulary Words:

Word	Contextual Definition
College System	A set of multiple, affiliated universities and colleges that are usually geographically distributed.

Launch: (2 minutes)

Opening Message/Question:

We have reviewed different types of college systems.

- Who can name the college systems we have already reviewed?

Answers: University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), California Community Colleges (CCC) and Private Colleges and Universities

Today, we will learn more about where we can continue to research these and other college systems.

Agenda: (20 minutes)

Distribute copies of the *FFWD Online College Exploration Resources* handout.

Review Activity Instructions: (5 minutes)

1. The TOP SECTION has 3 College Exploration Websites that will be helpful throughout high school (college exploration, major exploration, career exploration)
2. The websites require you to create a free student account so if you have not created an account yet, you can do that today.
3. If you don’t already have a professional GMAIL that you ONLY use for academic / college exploration – you should create one today!
4. The BOTTOM SECTION has websites that will help you learn more about specific college systems
5. Let’s review the systems together (read through website descriptions on the Explore College Systems section of the handout).

Individual Work: (15 minutes)

- You will now work independently!
- *Teacher Note: Distribute a laptop/Chromebook to each student. Review the 4 steps of the Exploring Online College Resources section to make sure they understand the assignment.*

Summary: (3 minutes)

- I want to hear from 4 or 5 volunteers. Please share your responses to #3 & #4 of your *FFWD Online College Exploration Resources* handout.
- I'm sure you did not finish all of your research so you all need to continue to research campuses. You don't know what you don't know and this means that your dream campus or "perfect fit" may be a school you have never heard of!

Extension:

Allow students to continue to do more in depth online research for the college campus they picked or any college campus by giving them the *FFWD My College Scavenger Hunt HS Version* handout.

Materials:

Board or Chart Paper/Markers
Computer, Screen and LCD Projector
Copies of the *FFWD Online College Exploration Resources* Handout
Laptop or Chromebook Cart

Extension:

Laptop or Chromebook Cart
Copies of the *FFWD My College Scavenger Hunt HS Version* Handout

Fast Forward to College (▶▶FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

ONLINE COLLEGE EXPLORATION RESOURCES

College Exploration Websites

(Requires creating student accounts with your professional Gmail)

[Californiacolleges.edu](http://californiacolleges.edu)

- Learn campus facts, search by distance
- Undergraduate Student Campus Matching Assistant

<http://imfirst.org>

- Offers comprehensive profiles of (public & private) colleges and universities committed to serving and supporting first-generation college students

<http://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>

- Filter your college search by location, housing, sports, diversity, and many more categories.

Explore College Systems

California State University (www.csumentor.edu)

- Explore & compare all 23 CSU campuses

University of California (<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu>)

- Explore & compare all 9 UC campuses

Privates Colleges/Universities (<http://www.aiccu.edu/member-colleges>)

- Search by location with descriptions

Women's Colleges (<http://www.womenscolleges.org/>)

- Women's colleges in higher education are undergraduate, bachelor's degree-granting institutions, often liberal arts colleges, whose student populations are composed exclusively or almost exclusively of women.

(HBCU) Historically Black Colleges & Universities (<http://hbcueducationcentral.com/>)

- Historically black colleges and universities provide a college experience where African-American students can gain a world-class education while surrounded by students and faculty who know where they're coming from.
- Black students learn from professors and mentors who understand their culture and the challenges they face. In their leisure time, these students are surrounded by other students with whom they can be themselves and enjoy their shared identity.

(WUE) Western Undergraduate Exchange (<http://www.wiche.edu/wue>)

- Residents of WICHE states are eligible to request a reduced tuition rate of 150% of resident tuition at participating two- and four-year college programs outside of their home state.
- WICHE members include: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Fast Forward to College (▶▶FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

Exploring Online College Resources

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. If you don't already have a professional Gmail, create one! Make sure to write down your credentials and keep in safe place!

Username: _____ PW: _____

2. Pick one of the college search websites and create an account if you don't already have one.

Name of college search website: _____

Username: _____ PW: _____

3. BROWSE AROUND! Identify a tool on the website you found helpful: _____

4. Pick one of the college system websites and explore one campus!

a. Name of college system: _____

b. Name of campus: _____

c. City & State: _____

d. Interesting fact that appeals to you: _____

e. Something you want to do more research on: _____

Fast Forward to College (►►FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

My College Scavenger Hunt

Name: _____

Name of College: _____

When it comes to college, you have so many choices. In order to find out more about a college, you can visit the campus and take a tour. You may have a college close to your house that you can visit, but there are also many other colleges that are not close by. You can visit these colleges online!

Let's do some college research!

- Go to <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org>.
- Choose one of the four year colleges you have learned about during our Fast Forward to College lessons, and enter that college name into the FIND COLLEGES box in the lower left part of the website.
- Once you are on the website, you can start your scavenger hunt!

Find the following at the **At a Glance** tab:

1. Is it a public or private college? (circle one) Public Private
2. The application deadline: _____
3. The size: (circle one) Small Medium Large
4. The graduation rate: _____

Find the following at the **Majors & Learning Environment** tab:

1. The calendar type (system): (circle one) Semester Quarter
2. What types of degrees are offered? (circle all that apply)
Associate's Bachelor's Master's Doctoral
3. Name one major in at this college you are interested in: _____

Find the following at the **Campus Life** tab:

1. The total number of undergraduates: _____
2. The percentage of first-year students living in college housing: _____
3. The team name/mascot: _____

Find the following at the **Applying** tab:

1. Total number of applicants: _____
2. Total number of admitted students: _____
3. Application Fee: _____

Find the following at the **Paying** tab:

1. The total cost of attendance for someone who lives on campus: _____
2. The regular financial aid deadline: _____