



In this “Shark Tank” simulation, students work in teams to pitch their plan to raise the bar on how they live and go after what they want in life even if there isn’t an example, and their team of sharks will share how they want to “invest” in their plan with whatever resources (skills, connections, experience, support) they have available.



Paper and pencils/pens; See “Special Note” in Section 4 if you are working with younger students.

Total Prep Time: 5 mins.



As this is the fifth Monday of the month, please consider sharing or re-sharing highlights from the Monthly Kick-Off, and if appropriate, monthly video.

Special Note: At the beginning of this activity, consider playing the Shark Tank Film Clip to students who have never seen the show. If you cannot access videos in class, ask a student to explain the show or share the Shark Tank synopsis below: “Shark Tank is a reality TV show that features a panel of wealthy investors called “sharks.” Aspiring entrepreneurs present their new product or business idea to convince the sharks to invest their money to help them succeed.”

| 4 C's | | SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL LEARNING | | SERVICE LEARNING | |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| • | Critical thinking | • | Self-awareness | • | Integrated learning |
| • | Communication | • | Self-management | • | High quality service |
| • | Collaboration | • | Social-awareness | • | Collaboration |
| • | Creativity | • | Relationship skills | • | Student voice |
| | | • | Responsible decision-making | • | Civic responsibility |
| | | | | • | Reflection |
| | | | | | Evaluation |

GOALS FOR THE WEEK

- Decide to pursue what you want to achieve and raise the bar to how you live every day.
- Practice empowering others and being a positive inspiration.
- Take ownership and action to start living your life in a fulfilled and positively impactful way.
- Understand how “BEING THE INSPIRATION” is an important part of this month’s theme, “MONDAY GETS EMPOWERED”.



STUDENT ACTIVITY: "SHARK TANK"

- 1) **SHARE THE NAME OF THIS ACTIVITY WITH STUDENTS: "SHARK TANK"**
- 2) **ASK 1-3 QUESTIONS FROM THE LIST BELOW TO WARM STUDENTS UP ON THE ACTIVITY'S FOCUS:**

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- **What does it mean to "raise the bar" on how you live?**
 - Ex. Raising what is expected of you or what you expect from yourself.
- **What are some examples of raising the bar on how you live (lifestyles, public figures, etc.)?**
- **What are some ways you can raise the bar on how you live today and in the near future?**
- **What are some ways you can raise the bar on how you live in the long-term future?**
- **What does it look like to really go after what you want in life?**
 - **What daily and long-term changes and choices would you need to make to pursue that goal?**
- **What elements (ex. your skills, support, etc.) do you address in order to raise the bar on how you live and go after the life you want?**
- **Why is it sometimes scary to share your dreams and goals with others?**
- **Why is it important to share your dreams and goals with others?**
- **Why is it sometimes scary to ask for help or support?**
- **Why is it important to ask others for help, advice and support?**
- **How might sharing your plan to raise the bar on how you live and asking your classmates for their support help you and others "GET EMPOWERED"?**
- **How might helping your classmates raise the bar on how they live help you "BE THE INSPIRATION"?**

3) **SET UP THE "SHARK TANK" ACTIVITY:**

- **Explain**
 - Being empowered isn't about creating just one inspirational moment—it's about raising the bar to how you live, day after day, throughout your life
 - Since the best things in life are shared, you can go after what you want in life by using your voice, finding a cheerleader, supporters and fans—and being that for other people.
- **Ask:**
 - Who has seen the television show "SHARK TANK"?
 - What is the premise or purpose of the show?
 - See "Special Note" section 4.

4) **START THE "SHARK TANK" ACTIVITY:**

- **Explain:**
 - Today, you will work in teams in a "SHARK TANK" simulation to pitch your plan to raise the bar on how you live and go after what you want in life even if there isn't an example. Your team of "SHARKS" will then share how they want to "invest" in your plan with whatever resources (skills, connections, experience, support) they have available.
- * **SPECIAL NOTE: For younger students or to simplify or shorten this activity, see "Baby Shark" activity in the "Extension" section below.**
- **Divide students into groups of 3 - 4 students**
- **Distribute paper and pencils/pens to each student**
- **Allow students 3-5 minutes to plan their "SHARK TANK" pitch to share how they want to raise the bar on how they live and go after what they want in life. (Ex. I want to raise the bar by making sure I always "GET BACK UP" when I fall or fail. The skills I need... The support I need...)**

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- When time is up, give each student 2 minutes to pitch their idea to their team of “SHARKS” who will each share how they want to “invest” in their classmate’s plan with whatever resources (skills, connections, experience, support) they have available.

5) AFTER THE ACTIVITY, ASK 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS REFLECT ON WHAT THEY’VE ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW THEY CAN TAKE THIS FORWARD:

***NOTE:** *Choose questions appropriate to your students’ ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals. Students may share their answers in pairs, small groups, or as a large group.*

- What was challenging about this activity? Why?
- What was your favorite part of this activity? Why?
- What was the most unexpected or important lesson you took away from this activity? Why?
- How did this activity help you better understand what it means to raise the bar on how you live?
- How did this activity help you better understand how you can go after what you want in life even if there isn’t an example?
- How did this activity help you better understand what resources (skills, connections, experience, support) you need to raise the bar on how you live and go after what you want in life?
- How did this activity change your perspective on how to “BE THE INSPIRATION” for yourself and others?
- How might continue to share your goals and dreams help you to “BE THE INSPIRATION” to help you and others “GET EMPOWERED”?

6) THANK STUDENTS FOR SHARING THEIR “SHARK TANK” IDEAS AND REFLECTIONS. REMIND STUDENTS THAT THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE SHARED, AND BEING EMPOWERED ISN’T ABOUT CREATING JUST ONE INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT—IT’S ABOUT RAISING THE BAR TO HOW THEY LIVE, DAY AFTER DAY, THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFE.

7) ENCOURAGE AND CHECK IN WITH STUDENTS ON ANY PLANS THEY HAVE TO USE THEIR “SHARK TANK” IDEAS AND REFLECTIONS OUTSIDE OF CLASS. CHECK IN WITH STUDENTS ON HOW THEY ARE FINDING AND USING THEIR VOICE TO GO AFTER WHAT THEY WANT IN LIFE, EVEN IF THERE ISN’T AN EXAMPLE FOR THEM. ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO FIND A CHEERLEADER, A FRIEND, AND A BUNCH OF SUPPORTERS AND FANS—AND BE THAT FOR OTHER PEOPLE.

8) CONTINUE EXPLORING HOW TO HELP OTHERS “BE THE INSPIRATION” BY LEADING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EXTENSION IDEAS.



EXTENSION IDEAS:

DO ONE OR MORE OF THESE EXTENSION IDEAS TO BRING THE LESSON FROM 15 MINUTES TO 30 MINUTES OR MORE.

- 1) **Shark Tank Business Plan:** Extend the Shark Tank activity to film the shark tank “shows” and to give students time to fully research and put together a fully-formed pitch to their group of sharks.
- 2) **Baby Shark:** For younger students or to simplify or shorten this activity, have students just plan the pitch for their idea and consider the resources or support they will need without using time to pitch or receive feedback.
- 3) **Be a Shark:** “BE THE INSPIRATION” and ask friends, family members, or others at home how they want to raise the bar in their lives. Take them through the process of Shark Tank and find out what they need to accomplish it.

“**WHAT IS IT YOU PLAN TO DO WITH YOUR ONE WILD AND PRECIOUS LIFE?**”

- MARY OLIVER, AMERICAN POET