



The Yellow Table

Lesson Plan

Created: 02/2024 by the National FFA Organization

Description of Lesson: Dream big or dream bold? In her retiring address, 2022-23 National FFA Secretary Jessica Herr shares stories of bold dreams, including her own “yellow table.”

Student Learning Objectives:

- After completing these activities, students will ...
1. Understand the importance of goals and dreams.
 2. Explain and develop a SMART goal.

Suggested Grade Level:

Grades 9 and 10 (This lesson is written so instructors can scale up or down based on class needs.)

Suggested Time: 60 minutes (*Time requirements may vary based upon student understanding and class schedule.)

Resources/References:

1. Video: “The Yellow Table” | Jessica Herr 2023 Retiring Adress, <https://vimeo.com/883700525>

Related Resources:

1. Retiring Addresses and Keynote Speeches, [FFA.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/](https://ffa.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/)

Equipment and Supplies Needed:

1. A copy of the “The Yellow Table” worksheet for each student
2. Internet access to play the video in real-time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time

Vocabulary:

1. Goal
2. Dream

Cross-Curricular Connections:

English/Language Arts
• Create a personally relevant SMART goal.

Virtual Instruction Ideas:

Have students download and watch the video on a device of their choice and complete the worksheet.

Student Activity Sheets:

Direct access to student activity sheets without lesson plan or answer key for easy upload to a learning management system or printing for classwork.

Word: <https://ffa.box.com/s/u7xye7oyelyzp4auuizrprku6ex702ox>

PDF: <https://ffa.box.com/s/3i6h24e1vc3m44revi51neli0zmyf4w9>

Google Doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gnAezrWVtB7Yr67YD9TQSpv2T6m1fCRa1w_DmwEy1RI/copy

Undesigned: <https://ffa.box.com/s/67yv5c9n2dijtl1t690st4ywrif9flk>

These Activities Are Aligned to the Following Standards:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A.Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PL-C.Vision: Visualize the future and how to get there.
- FFA.PL-E.Awareness: Understand personal vision, mission and goals.
- FFA.PG-J.Mental Growth: Embrace cognitive and intellectual development relative to reasoning, thinking and coping.

Common Core – Writing

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.01. Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee. Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others.
- CRP.02: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive.
- CRP.04. Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.
- CRP.10. Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals. Career-ready individuals take personal ownership of their own educational and career goals, and they are regularly act on a plan to attain these goals.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Communication
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Leadership and Responsibility
- Productivity and Accountability
- Think Creatively

Lesson Plan:

1. **Bell Ringer:** What is your big dream?
2. **Introduction:** Give each student the "The Yellow Table" worksheet. *Today, we are going to watch a retiring address from the 96th National FFA Convention & Expo. This retiring address was given by 2022-23 National FFA Secretary Jessica (Jess) Herr. In her speech, we will learn why ordinary dreams are bold dreams. As we are watching the video, look over the questions on the worksheet "The Yellow Table" and be ready for the answers.*
3. **Activity:** Each student needs a copy of the worksheet "The Yellow Table."
 - a. **Part 1:** Have students watch the retiring address of 2022-23 National FFA Secretary Jessica Herr. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/883700525>. While students watch the video, have them complete the questions.
 - b. **Part 2:** Students will develop their own goal based on their dreams. They will follow the prompt to write their goal in SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound) format.
4. **Follow-up:** Have students share their goals and their significance with a small group of three or four students depending on class size.
5. **Exit Ticket:** Why is creating goals in every aspect of your life important?

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-C; FFA.PL-E; FFA.PG-J; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4; CRP.01; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.10.

The Yellow Table

Part 1

Directions:

Answer the following questions while watching the retiring address of 2022-23 National FFA Secretary Jessica Herr, "The Yellow Table." The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/883700525>.

1. What was Jessica's high school job?

2. What was the name of her workshop?

3. Fill in the blanks from the following quote:

"Just because something's _____ doesn't mean that it's _____."

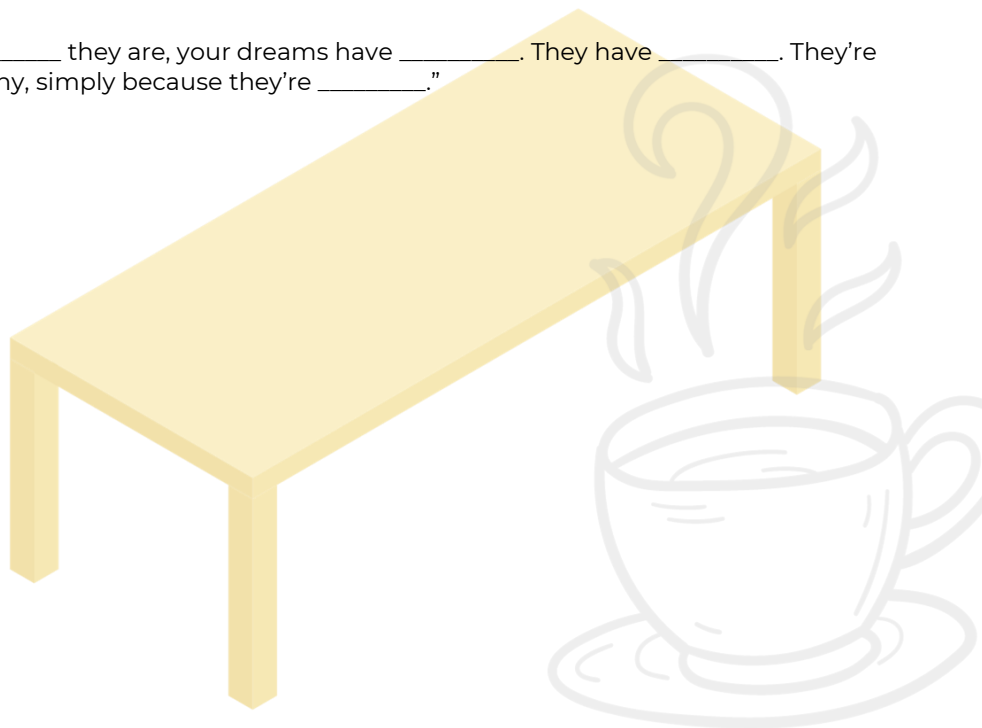
4. What are "dream defenders"?

5. Who are your dream defenders?

6. What is Jessica's ordinary dream?

7. Fill in the blanks from the following quote:

"No matter how _____ or how _____ they are, your dreams have _____. They have _____. They're worthy, simply because they're _____."



Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Jessica talks about the workshop she facilitated during her time as a national officer called “dream big.” At the end of the workshop, she asked students to write their big dream or goal on a sticky note. In the space below, write one SMART goal. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound.

	Write your initial goal below:
S	Specific: What is your goal? Why is it important to you?
M	Measurable: How will you measure the progress and success of your goal? How will you know if you have achieved your goal?
A	Attainable/Achievable: How will you work toward achieving this goal?
R	Relevant: How does this goal align with your values? Why are you setting this goal?
T	Time-bound: When will you accomplish your goal? What deadlines can you set?

Please write your full goal including all the components of the SMART acronym below:

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-C; FFA.PL-E; FFA.PG-J; CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4; CRP.01; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.10.

KEY: The Yellow Table

Part 1

Directions:

Answer the following questions while watching the retiring address of 2022-2023 National FFA Secretary Jessica Herr, "The Yellow Table." The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/883700525>.

1. What was Jessica's high school job?

Working at a coffee shop

2. What was the name of her workshop?

Dream big

3. Fill in the blanks from the following quote:

"Just because something's **ordinary** doesn't mean that it's **insignificant**."

4. What are "dream defenders"?

They're the people who fight for you and your dreams.

5. Who are your dream defenders?

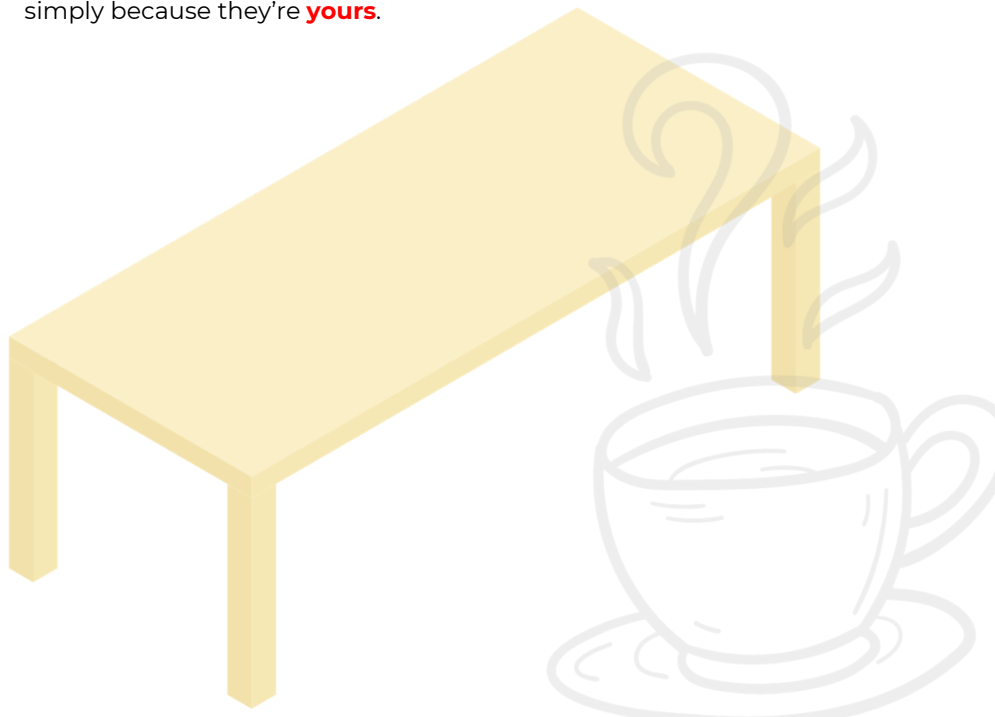
Answers will vary.

6. What is Jessica's ordinary dream?

Move back home to open her own coffee shop and cut-flower farm called the Yellow Table.

7. Fill in the blanks from the following quote:

"No matter how **big** or how **small** they are, your dreams have **purpose**. They have **value**. They're worthy, simply because they're **yours**."



Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Jessica talks about the workshop she facilitated during her time as a national officer called “dream big.” At the end of the workshop, she asked students to write their big dream or goal on a sticky note. In the space below, write one SMART goal. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound.

	Write your initial goal below: Answers will vary.
S	Specific: What is your goal? Why is it important to you? Answers will vary.
M	Measurable: How will you measure the progress and success of your goal? How will you know if you have achieved your goal? Answers will vary.
A	Attainable/Achievable: How will you work toward achieving this goal? Answers will vary.
R	Relevant: How does this goal align with your values? Why are you setting this goal? Answers will vary.
T	Time-bound: When will you accomplish your goal? What deadlines can you set? Answers will vary.

Please write your full goal including all of the components of the SMART acronym below:

Answers will vary.
