

Pre-Launch Lesson Plan

GRADE 4, PLANET I | ALL ABOUT DEGREES

Objectives

- Students name and describe six different kinds of training and education: apprenticeships, advanced degrees, associate's degrees, certificates and specialized career credentials, bachelor's degrees, and technical training.
- Students can describe a range of career training programs and education pathways.

Preparation & Materials Needed

- Copies of the *All About Degrees* worksheet and a pair of scissors for students to cut the worksheet into strips. Alternatively, print and cut the strips ahead of time, one set of strips for each class team.
- Chalkboard/whiteboard and markers.

Lesson Plan

Total Time: 12-15 minutes

INTRODUCTION

5-6 Minutes

Introduce students' upcoming visit to Level 4, Planet I by reminding students that Planet I is populated with individuals who like to investigate and learn new things. Explain that in this lesson — before their visit to Planet I — the class is going to practice investigating something called “degrees.”

Tell the class to imagine what a thermometer looks like (or show them a picture of one). Ask students:

- *Do you recall seeing hash marks that are evenly spaced along the side of a thermometer?*
- *Does anyone know what those are called?*
- *What do those hash marks measure?*

Explain that the evenly spaced lines on the side of a thermometer are called “temperature degrees” because they measure the degree to which something is hot or cold. Ask students:

- *Which is hotter, 90 degrees or 70 degrees?*
- *Which is colder, 20 degrees or 15 degrees?*

Discuss how the degree marks on a thermometer tell us the level of something, in this case, the temperature level. Explain that education is also measured in degrees.



DISCUSSION**1-2 Minutes**

Write the term “College Degrees” on the board or chart paper. Engage the classroom in a discussion about college degrees:

- *Has anyone heard this term before?*
- *What is a college degree?*
- *How might college degrees be similar to the temperature degrees used on a thermometer?*

Help the class understand that — just like the degrees on a thermometer — college degrees indicate different levels of education and training. Some college degrees can be earned in a short period of time, while other college degrees require a longer period of time to complete. Also, the level of education and training varies between different college degrees.

ACTIVITY**5-7 Minutes**

Divide the class into student teams of whatever size you choose. Distribute a copy of the *All About Degrees* worksheet and a pair of scissors to each team — or cut the worksheet into strips ahead of time — so that each team has one set of strips from the worksheet.

Tell students that the words on the strips of paper are typical names of college degrees and training programs that are available to students once they graduate from high school. Explain that the task of each team is to arrange the strips from top to bottom with the degrees that require the *most* time to complete at the top and those requiring the *least* amount of time to complete at the bottom.

When teams are ready, have each team read the order they came up with, then share the results (from *most* time to complete to *least*):

- Doctoral Degree
- Master’s Degree or Apprenticeship Program
- Bachelor’s Degree
- Associate’s Degree
- Technical Training

CONCLUSION**1-2 Minutes**

Tell students that their upcoming visit to Planet I will allow them to investigate and learn about college degrees in more detail, increasing their *degree* of knowledge!

4I ACTIVITY | ALL ABOUT DEGREES

Cut out each of the types of college degrees along the dotted line. Then arrange the strips by the degrees that require the most time to complete at the top to those that require the least amount time to complete at the bottom.



Master's Degree

Technical Training

Bachelor's Degree

Associate's Degree

Apprenticeship Program

Doctoral Degree