

Ideas and Activities

for College Application Week

"Hello, My Name Is..."

Materials:

- Copy Paper
- Printer
- Markers
- "Hello My Name Is..." Template
(pdf available on the GEAR UP website)

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to encourage school faculty and staff to share their college experience with their students, and to encourage students to build connections with their teachers.

Print copies of the "Hello, My Name Is..." template* and ask your teachers, counselors, administrators and other staff members to fill in the blanks and post the sign outside their classroom or office. Encourage them to add other decorations or information, including college pennants, brochures, posters or signs!

*A black and white version of this document is included on the next page. Additional colors are available in pdf format online at the GEAR UP web site.

Hello
my name is

and I graduated from:

College Application Week

Explore colleges and universities at cfwv.com

"I applied" Word Wall

Materials:

- Freezer or packaging paper
- Markers (multiple colors)
- Tape

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to encourage students to apply to college and then share their aspirations with their classmates and teachers.

Tape large sheets of white paper to a wall in your commons area, cafeteria or other public place. During college application week, encourage students to write their name, the name(s) of the college(s) to which they applied, and their goals and aspirations for college and a career.

Bonus:

Take a picture of students signing the wall or standing in front of the wall once it is complete. Send the photo to staff at your GEAR UP office and your local newspaper! (We've even written the newspaper photo description for you - see below!)

"Students at (insert name of school) shared their goals for the future during College Application Week. (Insert number) students applied to college during the five-day event."

College Spirit Fashion Show

Materials:

- Auditorium, gymnasium or other venue
- Outgoing Teenagers

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to allow students to show off their school spirit — but for college instead of high school.

Schedule time for your school to host a “College Spirit Fashion Show.” Encourage your students to dress up in their craziest, wackiest college-spirit clothes — we’re talking wigs, face paint, colorful socks, the works!

Have the students model their outfits during lunch or another scheduled time. Provide prizes to the most creative!

Bonus:

Take a picture of students during the fashion show. Send the photo to staff at your GEAR UP office and your local newspaper! (We’ve even written the newspaper photo description for you - see below!)

“Students at (insert name of school) show off their college spirit during College Application Week. (Insert number) students applied to college during the five-day event.”

College "Prep" Rally

Materials:

- Auditorium, gymnasium or other venue
- Outgoing Teenagers
- Pom Poms, Banners, Signs (and the materials to make them)

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to allow students to show off their school spirit — but for college instead of high school.

Host a pep rally, but with a college theme. Encourage various student groups to rally behind a particular college or university (e.g. the student council, the basketball team, Hi-Y, etc.). They can decorate the school with signs and banners cheering on their college, and even add fun facts about their school to their signs. They should come up with a cheer and dress up to support their new college team.

In the afternoon or during lunch, bring students into the gym or football stadium for various, pep-rally-like contests (i.e. shouting matches, crazy relay races, pie-eating contests). Award prizes to the teams with the most school spirit, the most creative outfits, the best college cheer, etc.

Bonus:

Take a picture of students during the college prep rally. Send the photo to staff at your GEAR UP office and your local newspaper! (We've even written the newspaper photo description for you - see below!)

"Students at (insert name of school) show off their college spirit during College Application Week. (Insert number) students applied to college during the five-day event."

Fight Song Friday

Materials:

- *Audio Recordings of College and University Fight Songs (often available on iTunes, or college and university web sites)*
- *Your School Intercom System*

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to encourage students and staff to get into the college spirit.

For one day, switch your school's bell system with recordings of college or university fight songs and cheers. Mix it up throughout the day so that everytime the bell "rings", the students hear a new song or chant.

College Quiz Bowl

Materials:

- *Your School Intercom System*

Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to help students learn more about the state's public colleges and universities.

Every day for one week, ask a different college or university trivia question* during the morning or evening announcements. Have each student write his or her answer and name on a piece of paper, and turn the paper in to the classroom teacher.

Provide your teachers with the answers to the questions, so that they can sort through and determine which students submitted a correct answer. Have the teachers submit all students with correct answers for a daily drawing.

Announce the winner, his or her prize, and the correct answer later that day or the next morning.

Start the process over again the next day, and continue throughout College Application Week.

*Sample trivia questions (and answers) are included on the next page.

College Application Week: Trivia Questions

Q: Which college or university's mascot is named "Marco?"

A: Marshall University

Q: At which college or university do students get to class by taking the "PRT?"

A: West Virginia University

Q: Which college or university's mascot is the "Pioneers"?

A: Glenville State College

Q: Which college or university is nicknamed "The Campus Beautiful?"

A: Concord University

Q: Which college or university is nicknamed "Big Blue?"

A: Bluefield State College

Q: Which college or university is located in Wheeling, W.Va.?

A: West Liberty University

Q: Which college or university's mascot is a yellow jacket?

A: West Virginia State University

Q: Mary Lou Retton won an Olympic Gold Medal in gymnastics. Which college or university is located in her hometown?

A: Fairmont State University

Q: Which college or university is located just 65 miles from Washington D.C.?

A: Shepherd University

Q: Which college or university is also called "Tech"?

A: West Virginia University Institute of Technology

Computer Desktop Decor

Materials:

- *Access to the settings of your school's computers*
- *College Application Week Computer Desktop Backgrounds*

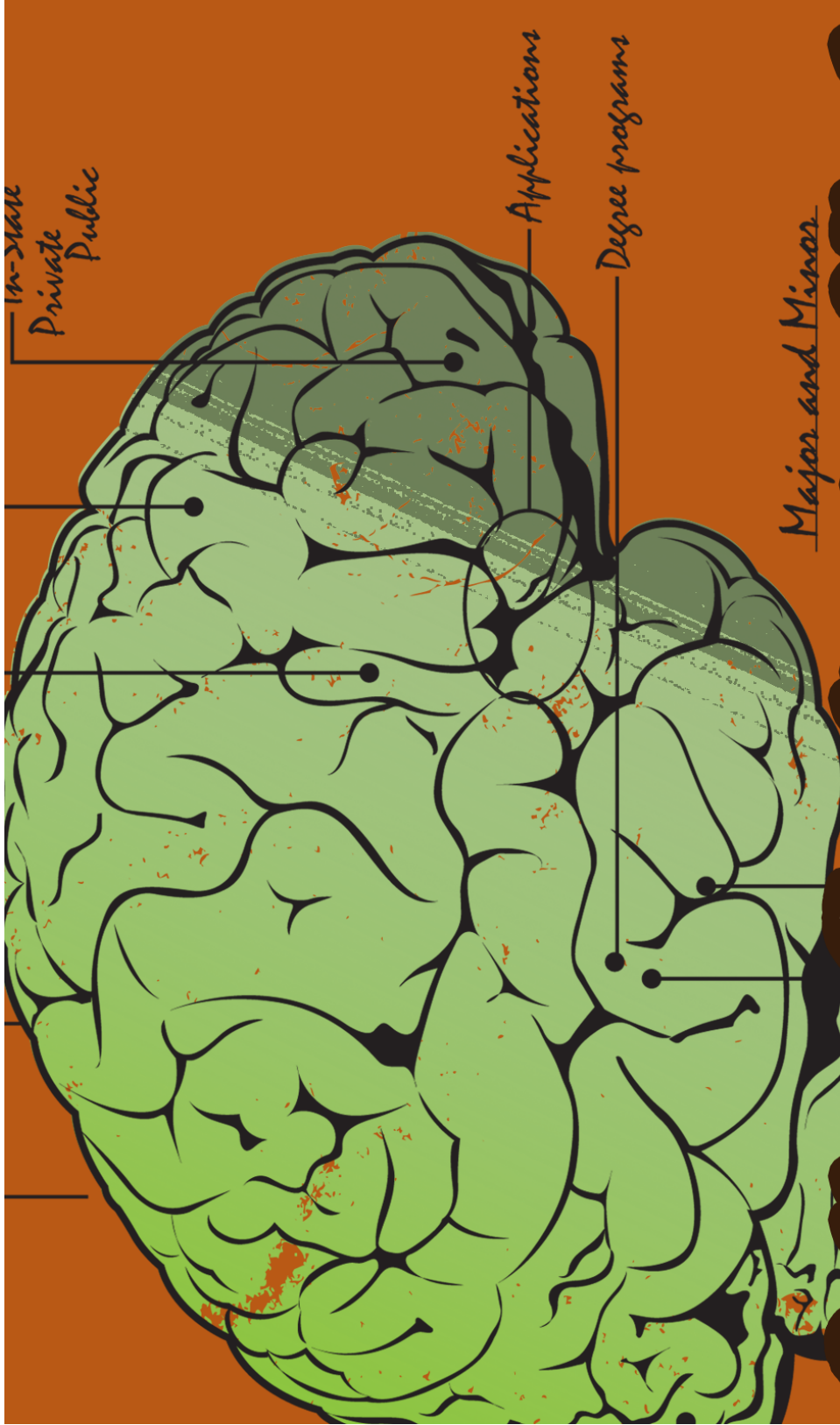
Description/Instructions:

This activity is designed to remind students that College Application Week is happening in their school, and that they should prepare by exploring colleges and universities and creating an account on cfwv.com.

Ask your school's IT specialist or librarian for permission to change the computer desktop backgrounds in your school's computer labs.

A few weeks before College Application Week, change the background on as many of your school's computers as possible to the College Application Week backgrounds (available for download on the GEAR UP web site).

*An example of the desktop background is included on the next page. More screen sizes are available for download online.



Major and Minor

College Application Week

November 15-19 | Start exploring colleges now at cfwv.com.