**Ideal School Activities**

Needed materials:

* Flipchart paper
* Markers

Steps for activities:

* Divide students into groups of four
* Provide groups with flipchart paper and markers

**Activity 1: What works and what doesn’t**

* + Purpose: To identify situations that are helpful and detrimental
  + Have the students draw two columns on their flipchart paper
    - First column: Write “What works in school”
    - Second column: Write “What doesn’t work in school”
  + Groups should each choose 1 facilitator who will record answers on flipchart paper
  + Groups should discuss what works/doesn’t work in their school regarding the following topics:
    - Communication/relationships
    - Learning environment

**What works?**

**What doesn’t work?**

**Activity 2: Dream School**

* + Tell students that they have just been put in charge of creating the ideal school
  + Ask groups to choose one facilitator who will record answers or draw on flip chart paper
  + Groups should discuss what their ideal school would be like
  + They should consider the following:
    - What would the expectations for students/ teachers be?
    - How would expectations be communicated and reinforced?
    - Would you attend for shorter days year round or have longer days with less summer vacation?
    - How would different types of learners be engaged in school/ academics?
    - How would all students be challenged to think creatively, and be prepared for the world of work and adult life beyond high school?
    - What would students and teachers interactions look like?
    - What would the culture be like?
    - What beliefs and attitude would be prevalent/ mainstream?
    - What kinds of activities, schedules would be in your school?
    - What else would you need to consider in creating your ideal school?
  + After coming up with ideas, groups should choose one goal from their dream school and brainstorm ways to achieve that goal.
    - They should create a table on another flipchart page with the following columns:
      * Action items (the things needing to be done)
      * Who is responsible for completing this
      * Due date
  + After action planning, groups should debrief together.

Groups should share their ideal school with larger group

**Our Goal**

and answer the following questions:



* + - How does your ideal school differ from your

current or previous school?

* + - What would need to change/happen for

your school to look more like your ideal school?

* + - What can YOU do to help make that happen?

My Action Plan