



Build Your Own Toolkit – Content Map **www.texasgearup.com/byot**

Academic

AP Spanish Language Project – 6:25

Program prepares native Spanish speakers to take the AP Spanish language test by the time they complete 8th grade. In demonstration grant, 100% of participating students passed the AP exam.

Supplemental Print Materials:
AP Spanish Language Project - Overview

Archaeology Field School – 6:09

Special summer program gives middle school and high school students opportunity to participate in a real archeological dig, where they learn the skills needed for actual fieldwork.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Archaeology Field School - Overview

Engineering and Science Expo – 6:20

Expo provides stimulating, interactive experience specially designed to attract young people to engineering and science careers. Teachers follow-up with related classroom lessons.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Engineering and Science Expo - Overview

Math Super Saturday – 6:24

Helps middle school students from Waco ISD connect math and science to the real world. Teachers learn new teaching strategies they can implement in the classroom.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Math Super Saturday - Overview

Robstown ISD: Building a Vertical Team – 9:05

Teachers and central office program directors discuss challenges and strategies for creating vertical teams.

College Readiness

Becoming A Well-Rounded Student (English) – 10:21

Explains the many benefits of participation in extracurricular activities and community service projects, including development of leadership, time management, critical thinking and interpersonal skills.

Supplemental Print Materials:

About National and Texas Tests

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide-Power Point Presentation

Becoming a Well-Rounded Facilitator Guide

Distinguished Achievement High School Program

Earning College Credit in High School

Inside The Admissions Office

Keeping A Portfolio

Parents' Guide to Middle School

Recommended High School Program

Top 10 Percent Rule

Becoming A Well-Rounded Student (Spanish) – 10:35

Explains the many benefits of participation in extracurricular activities and community service projects, including development of leadership, time management, critical thinking and interpersonal skills.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide (Spanish)

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide-PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)

Distinguished Achievement High School Program (Spanish)

Earning College Credit in High School-1 (Spanish)

Helpful Resources for Parents and Students (Spanish)

Highlights from the College for Texans Website (Spanish)

Keeping A Portfolio (Spanish)

Recommended High School Program (Spanish)

Student Checklist (Spanish)

Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future (English) – 17:24

Features current and former community college students who have benefited from their community college experiences. Explains why community college is a good option for many students.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Community College - Intro

Community College - Discussion Guide

Planning Ahead For College (English) – 10:43

Covers career exploration, goal setting, challenging coursework and other keys to successful college preparation. Includes observations and helpful tips from students, counselors and college admissions officers.

Supplemental Print Materials:

About National and Texas Tests
Academic Information Checklist
College Information Log Sheet
Community College Checklist
Distinguished Achievement High School Program
Earning College Credit in High School
Extracurricular Activities Checklist
Financial Aid - 5 Easy Steps
"Want To Go To College?" - Poster
Helpful Resources for Parents and Students
Helpful Web Sites
Highlights from The College For Texans Website
Inside The Admissions Office
Job History/Community Service Checklist
Keeping A Portfolio
Parents Guide to Middle School
Personal Information Checklist
Planning Ahead Discussion Guide
Planning Ahead Facilitator Guide
Planning Ahead - Discussion Guide - PowerPoint Presentation
Recommended High School Program
Sample Letter or E-Mail
Sample Thank You Letter
Student Checklist
Thinking About College
Top 10 Percent Rule

Planning Ahead For College (Spanish) – 12:21

Covers career exploration, goal setting, challenging coursework and other keys to successful college preparation. Includes observations and helpful tips from students, counselors and college admissions officers.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Academic Information Checklist (Spanish)
Community College Checklist (Spanish)
Distinguished Achievement High School Program (Spanish)
Earning College Credit in High School-1 (Spanish)
Extracurricular Activities Checklist (Spanish)
"Want To Go To College?" Poster
Helpful Resources for Parents and Students (Spanish)
Helpful Web Sites (Spanish)
Highlights from the College for Texans Website (Spanish)

Job History/Community Service Checklist (Spanish)
Keeping A Portfolio (Spanish)
Parents Guide to Middle School (Spanish)
Personal information Checklist (Spanish)
Planning Ahead Discussion Guide (Spanish)
Planning Ahead - PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)
Recommended High School Program (Spanish)
Student Checklist (Spanish)
The Top 10 Percent Rule (Spanish)
Thinking About College? (Spanish)

What To Expect When You Get To College (English) – 31:57

Brings the first year of college to life through the eyes of freshmen and sophomore students at three different campuses. Divided into modules for discussion, this video can help any student prepare for college. It is especially enlightening for students and families that have little college experience.

Module 1: Intro & The Adjustment Period

Supplemental Print Materials:

The Adjustment Period - Discussion Questions

Module 2: Study Skills

Supplemental Print Materials:

Study Skills - Discussion Questions

Module 3: The College Classroom

Supplemental Print Materials:

The College Classroom - Discussion Questions

Module 4: Campus Life

Supplemental Print Materials:

Campus Life - Discussion Questions

Module 5: Living Away from Home

Supplemental Print Materials:

Living Away From Home - Discussion Questions

Module 6: Summation

What To Expect When You Get To College (Spanish) – 50:31

Brings the first year of college to life through the eyes of freshmen and sophomore students at three different campuses. Divided into modules for discussion, this video can help any student prepare for college. It is especially enlightening for students and families that have little college experience.

Module 1: Intro & the Adjustment Period

Supplemental Print Materials:

The Adjustment Period - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 2: Study Skills

Supplemental Print Materials:

Study Skills - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 3: The College Classroom

Supplemental Print Materials:

The College Classroom - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 4: Passion

Supplemental Print Materials:

Passion - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 5: Campus Life

Supplemental Print Materials:

Campus Life - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 6: Living Away From Home

Supplemental Print Materials:

Living Away From Home - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 7: Summation

Career Exploration

Archaeology Field School – 6:09

Special summer program gives middle school and high school students opportunity to participate in a real archeological dig, where they learn the skills needed for actual fieldwork.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Archaeology Field School - Overview

Countdown to Your Future – 12:25

NASA Scientist Jack Bacon challenges students to imagine themselves in the future. Shot at NASA, Bacon encourages students to set goals, work hard and prepare for life in a rapidly changing world.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Countdown To Your Future - Intro

Dr. Jack Bacon - Bio

Countdown To Your Future - Discussion Guide

Engineering and Science Expo – 6:20

Expo provides stimulating, interactive experience specially designed to attract young people to engineering and science careers. Teachers follow-up with related classroom lessons.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Engineering and Science Expo - Overview

Math Super Saturday – 6:24

Helps middle school students from Waco ISD connect math and science to the real world. Teachers learn new teaching strategies they can implement in the classroom.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Math Super Saturday - Overview

Pathfinder’s Club – 6:15

Open to all 7th through 12th graders, program includes job shadowing and individual mentoring. Students explore career options, prepare for real-world challenges and higher education.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Pathfinder's Club - Overview

Tomorrow’s Teachers – 6:10

To address shortage of teachers, the district partnered with nearby junior colleges and universities to create its own teacher development program. Excellent example of a comprehensive K-16 strategy.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Tomorrow's Teachers - Overview

Educational Challenges

First Generation: Yes You Can! (English) – 16:13

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Introduction
First Generation - Discussion Guide

First Generation: Yes You Can! (Spanish) – 16:13

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Discussion Guide

State of Transition – 19:08

Texas State Demographer Steve Murdock examines trends, forecasts and challenges facing the state. Public education, he says, must prepare now for rapidly growing number and diversity of students.

Supplemental Print Materials:
State of Transition - PPT
State of Transition - Training Guide

Understanding Students from Poverty – 54:49

This one-hour training video in six modules explores Dr. Ruby Payne's ideas for working with students from poverty. Designed for teachers, counselors and administrators, the video features interviews with Dr. Payne and a panel of educators discussing ways that they have put her ideas into practice. Comes with a training and discussion guide, making it ideal for professional development sessions.

Module 1: Poverty in Texas – Challenges & Resources

Supplemental Print Materials:
Challenges & Resources - Overview
Challenges & Resources - Handout
Working with Students from Poverty: Discipline
Building Learning Structures Inside the Head
Understanding and Working with Students and Adults from Poverty

Module 2: Knowledge of Hidden Rules

Supplemental Print Materials:
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Overview
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Handout

Module 3: Communicating the Value of Education

Supplemental Print Materials:
Communicating the Value of Education - Overview
Communicating the Value of Education - Handout

Module 4: Opportunities for Success

Supplemental Print Materials:
Opportunities for Success - Overview
Opportunities for Success - Handout

Module 5: The Role of the Counselor

Supplemental Print Materials:
The Role of the Counselor - Overview

The Role of the Counselor - Handout

Module 6: Reasons for Hope
Supplemental Print Materials:
Reasons for Hope - Overview
Reasons for Hope - Handout

Financial Aid

Financial Aid: Opportunities of a Lifetime (English) - 12:39

Explains the different types of financial aid and the experiences of three students who are benefiting from financial aid. Also covers the application process and the importance of meeting deadlines.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Applying for College - PowerPoint Presentation
Financial Aid - 5 Easy Steps
Financial Aid Discussion Guide
Financial Aid Facilitator Guide
Financial Aid - Discussion Guide - PowerPoint Presentation
Financial Aid Training Guide

Financial Aid: Opportunities of a Lifetime (Spanish) – 14:55

Explains the different types of financial aid and the experiences of three students who are benefiting from financial aid. Also covers the application process and the importance of meeting deadlines.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Financial Aid Discussion Guide (Spanish)
Financial Aid Discussion Guide - PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)

Joyce’s Story: Financial Aid (English) – 12:39

Joyce, a first-generation college student, is pursuing her dreams thanks to financial aid. Her personal story instructs and inspires students and families who aspire to college but think they can’t afford it.

Joyce’s Story: Financial Aid (Spanish) – 14:55

Joyce, a first-generation college student, is pursuing her dreams thanks to financial aid. Her personal story instructs and inspires students and families who aspire to college but think they can't afford it.

First Generation

AP Spanish Language Project – 6:25

Program prepares native Spanish speakers to take the AP Spanish language test by the time they complete 8th grade. In demonstration grant, 100% of participating students passed the AP exam.

Supplemental Print Materials:
AP Spanish Language Project - Overview

First Generation: Yes You Can! (English) – 16:13

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Introduction
First Generation - Discussion Guide

First Generation: Yes You Can! (Spanish) – 18:06

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Discussion Guide

Understanding Students from Poverty – 54:49

This one-hour training video in six modules explores Dr. Ruby Payne's ideas for working with students from poverty. Designed for teachers, counselors and administrators, the video features interviews with Dr. Payne and a panel of educators discussing ways that they have put her ideas into practice. Comes with a training and discussion guide, making it ideal for professional development sessions.

Module 1: Poverty in Texas – Challenges & Resources

Supplemental Print Materials:
Challenges & Resources - Overview
Challenges & Resources - Handout
Working with Students from Poverty: Discipline
Building Learning Structures Inside the Head
Understanding and Working with Students and Adults from Poverty

Module 2: Knowledge of Hidden Rules

Supplemental Print Materials:
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Overview
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Handout

Module 3: Communicating the Value of Education

Supplemental Print Materials:

Communicating the Value of Education - Overview
Communicating the Value of Education - Handout

Module 4: Opportunities for Success
Supplemental Print Materials:
Opportunities for Success - Overview
Opportunities for Success - Handout

Module 5: The Role of the Counselor
Supplemental Print Materials:
The Role of the Counselor - Overview
The Role of the Counselor - Handout

Module 6: Reasons for Hope
Supplemental Print Materials:
Reasons for Hope - Overview
Reasons for Hope - Handout

GEAR UP Programs

Archaeology Field School – 6:09

Special summer program gives middle school and high school students opportunity to participate in a real archeological dig, where they learn the skills needed for actual fieldwork.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Archaeology Field School - Overview

Community Mentoring – 10:55

Community members serve as mentors to middle school and high school students in this well-established program at Spring Branch ISD.

Supplemental Print Materials:
SpringBoard Mentor Manual
SpringBoard Mentor Coordinator Manual
SpringBoard Mentor Training PPT
SpringBoard Mentor Info Session PPT

E-Mentoring – 9:03

Education majors at Stephen F. Austin State University use technology to mentor secondary students from rural East Texas school districts.

Supplemental Print Materials:
East TX E-Mentoring Program Guide

East Texas GEAR UP Program – 6:19

Explores how Stephen F. Austin State University, Angelina College and six school districts aligned policies and resources to build a culture of high expectations for all students.

Supplemental Print Materials:
East Texas GEAR UP Program - Overview

GEAR UP Waco: A Site-based Approach – 8:10

Project directors and school administrators discuss the need to tailor GEAR UP programs that meet the needs of individual campuses.

Math Super Saturday – 6:24

Helps middle school students from Waco ISD connect math and science to the real world. Teachers learn new teaching strategies they can implement in the classroom.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Math Super Saturday - Overview

Padres Unidos – 6:30

This middle school in El Paso made a special effort to reach out to the community and the community responded. Monthly parent academies attract up to 70% participation.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Padres Unidos - Overview

Parent-to-Parent Mentoring – 13:17

Two mentoring programs in the Rio Grande Valley train parents to inform and motivate other parents to get involved in their children's education.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Las Platicas Brochure
Las Platicas Parental Involvement Brochure
UTPA GEAR UP Parental Involvement Guide
Abriendo Puertas Portfolio Lesson

Pathfinder's Club – 6:15

Open to all 7th through 12th graders, program includes job shadowing and individual mentoring. Students explore career options, prepare for real-world challenges and higher education.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Pathfinder's Club - Overview

Peer Mentoring – 10:33

A student organization at Northeast Texas Community College offers peer mentoring for at-risk youth in nearby school districts.

Supplemental Print Materials:
NTCC Ground Rules for Mentoring

Project GRAD – 6:19

A multi-faceted parent-school partnership. Includes "Walk for Success," where parent volunteers go door-to-door to share information about education opportunities and expectations.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Project GRAD - Overview

Project GRAD Houston: Parent Empowerment – 8:37

Parent involvement in GEAR UP programs does not ensure success. Parents must be empowered to guide programs that change community expectations.

Robstown ISD: Building a Vertical Team – 9:05

Teachers and central office program directors discuss challenges and strategies for creating vertical teams.

UNT GEAR UP: Educational Journeys – 6:59

Project director and GEAR UP students discuss positive impact of organized travel to college campuses throughout the United States.

Ysleta Middle School: Total School Involvement – 8:01

Support from entire school community and consistent college readiness message is critical to successful implementation of GEAR UP programs.

Spanish

Becoming A Well-Rounded Student (Spanish) – 10:35

Explains the many benefits of participation in extracurricular activities and community service projects, including development of leadership, time management, critical thinking and interpersonal skills.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide (Spanish)

Becoming a Well-Rounded Student Discussion Guide-PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)

Distinguished Achievement High School Program (Spanish)

Earning College Credit in High School (Spanish)

Helpful Resources for Parents and Students (Spanish)

Highlights from the College for Texans Website (Spanish)

Keeping A Portfolio (Spanish)

Recommended High School Program (Spanish)
Student Checklist (Spanish)

Community College: Stepping Stone to Your Future (Spanish) – 18:06

Features current and former community college students who have benefited from their community college experiences. Explains why community college is a good option for many students.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Community College - Discussion Guide

Financial Aid: Opportunities of a Lifetime (Spanish) – 12:47

Explains the different types of financial aid and the experiences of three students who are benefiting from financial aid. Also covers the application process and the importance of meeting deadlines.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Financial Aid Discussion Guide (Spanish)
Financial Aid Discussion Guide - PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)

First Generation: Yes You Can! (Spanish) – 16:13

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Discussion Guide

How to Encourage Strong Academics at Home (Spanish) – 15:17

A group of parents in Laredo meets regularly to discuss their children's education. They explain why and how they create a home environment that encourages learning.

Joyce's Story: Financial Aid (Spanish) – 14:55

Joyce, a first-generation college student, is pursuing her dreams thanks to financial aid. Her personal story instructs and inspires students and families who aspire to college but think they can't afford it.

Planning Ahead For College (Spanish) – 12:21

Covers career exploration, goal setting, challenging coursework and other keys to successful college preparation. Includes observations and helpful tips from students, counselors and college admissions officers.

Supplemental Print Materials:
Academic Information Checklist (Spanish)
Community College Checklist (Spanish)
Distinguished Achievement High School Program (Spanish)

Earning College Credit in High School-1 (Spanish)
Extracurricular Activities Checklist (Spanish)
"Want To Go To College?" Poster
Helpful Resources for Parents and Students (Spanish)
Helpful Web Sites (Spanish)
Highlights from the College for Texans Website (Spanish)
Job History/Community Service Checklist (Spanish)
Keeping A Portfolio (Spanish)
Parents Guide to Middle School (Spanish)
Personal information Checklist (Spanish)
Planning Ahead Discussion Guide (Spanish)
Planning Ahead - PowerPoint Presentation (Spanish)
Recommended High School Program (Spanish)
Student Checklist (Spanish)
The Top 10 Percent Rule (Spanish)
Thinking About College? (Spanish)

What To Expect When You Get To College (Spanish) - 50:31

Brings the first year of college to life through the eyes of freshmen and sophomore students at three different campuses. Divided into modules for discussion, this video can help any student prepare for college. It is especially enlightening for students and families that have little college experience.

Module 1: Intro & the Adjustment Period

Supplemental Print Materials:

The Adjustment Period - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 2: Study Skills

Supplemental Print Materials:

Study Skills - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 3: The College Classroom

Supplemental Print Materials:

The College Classroom - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 4: Passion

Supplemental Print Materials:

Passion - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 5: Campus Life

Supplemental Print Materials:

Campus Life - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 6: Living Away From Home

Supplemental Print Materials:

Living Away From Home - Discussion Questions (Spanish)

Module 7: Summation

Mentoring

Community Mentoring – 10:55

Community members serve as mentors to middle school and high school students in this well-established program at Spring Branch ISD.

Supplemental Print Materials:

SpringBoard Mentor Manual
SpringBoard Mentor Coordinator Manual
SpringBoard Mentor Training PPT
SpringBoard Mentor Info Session PPT

E-Mentoring – 9:03

Education majors at Stephen F. Austin State University use technology to mentor secondary students from rural East Texas school districts.

Supplemental Print Materials:

East TX E-Mentoring Program Guide

Parent-to-Parent Mentoring - 13:17

Two mentoring programs in the Rio Grande Valley train parents to inform and motivate other parents to get involved in their children's education.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Las Platicas Brochure
Las Platicas Parental Involvement Brochure
UTPA GEAR UP Parental Involvement Guide
Abriendo Puertas Portfolio Lesson

Peer Mentoring - 10:33

A student organization at Northeast Texas Community College offers peer mentoring for at-risk youth in nearby school districts.

Supplemental Print Materials:

NTCC Ground Rules for Mentoring

Teaching Strategies

First Generation: Yes You Can! (English) – 16:13

Profiles students who were first in their family to attend college. Examines challenges they faced transitioning from high school to college and help they received from counselors, teachers and siblings.

Supplemental Print Materials:
First Generation - Introduction
First Generation - Discussion Guide

Understanding Students from Poverty – 54:49

This one-hour training video in six modules explores Dr. Ruby Payne's ideas for working with students from poverty. Designed for teachers, counselors and administrators, the video features interviews with Dr. Payne and a panel of educators discussing ways that they have put her ideas into practice. Comes with a training and discussion guide, making it ideal for professional development sessions.

Module 1: Poverty in Texas – Challenges & Resources

Supplemental Print Materials:
Challenges & Resources - Overview
Challenges & Resources - Handout
Working with Students from Poverty: Discipline
Building Learning Structures Inside the Head
Understanding and Working with Students and Adults from Poverty

Module 2: Knowledge of Hidden Rules

Supplemental Print Materials:
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Overview
Knowledge of Hidden Rules - Handout

Module 3: Communicating the Value of Education

Supplemental Print Materials:
Communicating the Value of Education - Overview
Communicating the Value of Education - Handout

Module 4: Opportunities for Success

Supplemental Print Materials:
Opportunities for Success - Overview
Opportunities for Success - Handout

Module 5: The Role of the Counselor

Supplemental Print Materials:
The Role of the Counselor - Overview
The Role of the Counselor - Handout

Module 6: Reasons for Hope

Supplemental Print Materials:
Reasons for Hope - Overview
Reasons for Hope - Handout

Parent Involvement

How to Encourage Strong Academics at Home (English) – 14:30

A group of parents in Laredo meets regularly to discuss their children's education. They explain why and how they create a home environment that encourages learning.

How to Encourage Strong Academics at Home (Spanish) – 15:17

A group of parents in Laredo meets regularly to discuss their children's education. They explain why and how they create a home environment that encourages learning.

Padres Unidos – 6:30

This middle school in El Paso made a special effort to reach out to the community and the community responded. Monthly parent academies attract up to 70% participation.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Padres Unidos - Overview

Project GRAD – 6:18

A multi-faceted parent-school partnership. Includes "Walk for Success," where parent volunteers go door-to-door to share information about education opportunities and expectations.

Supplemental Print Materials:

Project GRAD - Overview

Project GRAD Houston: Parent Empowerment – 8:37

Parent involvement in GEAR UP programs does not ensure success. Parents must be empowered to guide programs that change community expectations.