



# Road Trip to the Future: The Road Ahead Challenge



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**Time Frame**      280 Minutes

## Essential Question(s)

What offices, buildings, or locations do new college freshmen need to be able to find to complete the enrollment process?

## Summary

Parents and students will embark on a fun and informative journey across campus with a personalized "passport" in hand. This interactive activity encourages exploration of key locations vital to incoming freshmen, such as the bursar's office, campus bookstore, library, student services, and more. At each designated stop, participants will receive a stamp in their passport while learning about the resources and services offered at that location. This activity is designed to help families familiarize themselves with the campus, build confidence in navigating important areas, and prepare for a successful transition to college life.

## Learning Goals

- Identify and explore key campus locations, such as the bursar's office, bookstore, library, and student services, to gain a clear understanding of the resources and services available to support students during their college journey.
- Build confidence in navigating the campus independently by identifying and locating essential facilities, helping them feel more comfortable and prepared for college life.
- Parents and students will deepen their knowledge of the roles and functions of vital campus offices, fostering a sense of readiness and empowerment to handle academic, financial, and personal responsibilities as incoming freshmen.

## Attachments

- [3-2-1 Activity—Road Trip to the Future.pdf](#)
- [Presentation Slides—Road Trip to the Future.pptx](#)
- [Rapid Feedback Form—Road Trip to the Future.pdf](#)
- [Scavenger Hunt Passport—Road Trip to the Future.pdf](#)
- [Scavenger Hunt QR Codes—Road Trip to the Future.docx](#)
- [Scavenger Hunt QR Codes—Road Trip to the Future.pdf](#)
- [Stamp Assets—Road Trip to the Future.pdf](#)

## Materials

- Presentation Slides (attached)
- 3-2-1 Activity (attached; one per student)
- Scavenger Hunt Passport (attached; one per student)
- Scavenger Hunt QR Codes (attached; one per location)
- Stamps
- Stamp pads
- Campus Map
- Rapid Feedback Form (optional; attached; one per student)

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing Materials

The **Presentation Slides** will need to be modified to align with the campus visit that this resource will be used for. Editable content is highlighted yellow on the slides and there are notes throughout to indicate which slides should be modified.

The **3-2-1 Activity** handout is intended to be printed double-sided with two copies per page. After printing, cut each copy in half and provide half a page to each individual, both parents and students.

The **Scavenger Hunt Passport** is designed to be folded and stapled into a booklet. Prior to the activity, print the booklets and staple them together in the crease of the fold like a book.

The **Stamp Assets** are attached in the Facilitator Resources. Prior to the activity, these assets will need to be printed on rubber and made into stamps, using a laser cutter, such as Glowforge, xTool, or Beamo. Alternatively, stickers or markers could be used in place of stamps.

Before the activity, obtain a copy of the chosen institution's **Campus Map**. Notate which locations on the campus students will be finding. Edit the Presentation Slides to reflect the correct information for finding each location.

75 minutes

## Engage

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Activity

Contact the college prior to the implementation of this resource to arrange a campus visit.

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Activity

Using [Mentimeter](#), create a class code for students to join before facilitating the activity using the following prompts: *"Students, what's one thing parents worry about too much for college? Parents, what's one thing you know students don't worry about enough?"*

Add the code to slide 6 for students and parents to access quickly. Consider creating a [QR Code](#) to add to the slide as well.

Use **slides 2–4** from the attached **Presentation Slides** to make introductions, set expectations, and review goals.

Move to **slide 5** and explain the icebreaker prompt. Move to **slide 6** and ask students to access the [Mentimeter](#), either by using the [QR Code](#) or by typing in the link on the slide and then the access code. Read aloud the icebreaker questions and ask for responses to be added to the Menti. Facilitate a short conversation regarding responses provided.

Next, explain that students and family members will participate in a guided campus tour led by knowledgeable guides at the college. The tour will highlight essential locations such as academic buildings, residence halls, dining areas, and student services. Participants will learn about the history, traditions, and resources that define the campus community, gaining valuable insights into college life. This activity will be planned by the host college.

After the campus tour, move to **slide 7** and explain the [3-2-1](#) strategy. Provide students and parents the **3-2-1 Activity** handout (attached). Ask them to complete the front side of the handout focusing on three things they learned from the campus tour and two questions they have. Explain that they will return to the back of the handout later in the day.

100 minutes

## Explore

**Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Student Activity**

Coordinate with college staff to arrange representatives to facilitate hands-on activities as described in the activity. The activity is subject to change based on availability of campus personnel to lead the activity.

**Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Parent Activity**

Coordinate with college staff to arrange for representatives from key campus offices—such as financial aid, housing, the library, student services, and admissions—to meet with parents. Ensure representatives are prepared to provide clear, concise information about their services and address parent questions.

Students will actively engage in hands-on activities within two programs chosen for their draw of student interest, where students immerse themselves in real-world applications of these fields. They may participate in simulations, experiments, or problem-solving exercises that showcase the skills and concepts integral to these disciplines. Simultaneously, parents will interact with representatives from key campus areas, including financial aid, housing, the library, student services, and admissions. Parents will gain a deeper understanding of the resources and support available to students, empowering them to help guide their child's college journey. These activities will be planned and presented by the host college staff.

60 minutes

## Explain

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Activity

Prior to the activity, print and post the **Scavenger Hunt QR Codes** (attached) at each location point.

Move to **slide 8** and explain that students will be going on a scavenger hunt to help them become familiar with key campus locations and essential services. Provide students the **Scavenger Hunt Passport** handout (attached). Explain that students will embark on a journey to visit vital areas, such as the bursar's office, library, student services, campus bookstore, and more. Explain that at each stop, students will receive a stamp in their passport as proof of their visit, allowing them to track their progress while gaining valuable insights into the campus resources that support their college experience. Encourage students to ask questions to office personnel at each stop when possible and to scan the QR Codes at each location for more information about that location.

Use **slides 8–10** to provide information about how to find each location in their passport and directions for the activity. Provide each student a copy of the Campus Map with scavenger hunt locations highlighted.

30 minutes

## Extend

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Activity

Coordinate with college staff to select and arrange for students to participate in the panel. Provide the coordinator with information about the demographics of the attending families and suggest they select students whose backgrounds align with those families to ensure a meaningful and relatable experience.

Display **slide 11** and explain that participants will now hear from the college's students. This activity will feature a panel of current college students who will share valuable advice with incoming freshmen and their parents. Panelists will discuss topics such as academic strategies, balancing school and life, utilizing campus resources, and getting involved in extracurricular activities, while offering real-world insights to help ease the transition to college. This session aims to prepare students for college life while providing parents with helpful information to support their child's journey. Encourage students and parents to ask the panelists questions. This activity will be planned by the host college.

15 minutes

## Evaluate

Display **slide 12** and ask students and parents to revisit their 3-2-1 Activity handout from earlier. Ask them to flip the handout over and respond to the final prompt regarding one action they can take now.

### Facilitator's Note: Preparing for the Activity

Edit slide 13 to include a QR Code and/or link to the Rapid Feedback Form for the visit, if applicable. Alternatively, provide a copy of the **Rapid Feedback Form** handout (attached).

Next, display **slide 13** and provide students and parents the QR code or link to the Rapid Feedback Form unique to their visit.

## Resources

K20 Center. (n.d.). 3-2-1. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/117>

K20 Center. (n.d.). Mentimeter. Tech Tools. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/tech-tool/645>

K20 Center. (n.d.). QR codes. Tech Tools. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/tech-tool/2449>