This activity will help students develop a deeper understanding of what a GAP year is and how to utilize it to its full potential. This lesson will allow students to showcase their learning experiences, self-discovery, and related career exploration that can be completed during a GAP year by exploring the *‘Your Path After High School’* Guide in myBlueprint.

| **Teacher Led** | **X** | **Requires Computer** | **X** | **Requires myBlueprint.ca** | **X** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

**LEARNING GOALS:**

Students will explore the *‘Your Path After high School’* Guide in myBlueprint to:

1. Identify potential post-secondary pathways

2. Compare two (2) GAP year possibilities and identify their commonalities and differences

3. Select one (1) specific GAP year possibility that interests them the most, and provide two (2) reasons why this option may be the best fit for them

**Getting Started with myBlueprint:**

1. Have students visit myBlueprint using their district landing page:
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophoneeast](http://www.myblueprint.ca/anglophoneeast)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/anglohonewest](http://www.myblueprint.ca/anglohonewest)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophonenorth](http://www.myblueprint.ca/anglophonenorth)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/anglophonesouth](http://www.myblueprint.ca/anglophonesouth)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/dsfne](http://www.myblueprint.ca/dsfne)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/dsfno](http://www.myblueprint.ca/dsfno)
   * [www.myBlueprint.ca/francophonesud](http://www.myblueprint.ca/francophonesud)
2. Click **School Account Log In**
3. Log in using your school district credentials

**MATERIALS:**

● Computers, tablets, or mobile devices

● **Handout [A] - My Path After High School**

* **Handout [B] - GAP Year Possibilities Comparison**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. As a class, discuss “What is a GAP year?” and “How can I benefit from taking a GAP year?” You may wish to explore the following blog article: [What is a GAP year?](https://www.cangap.ca/post/gap-year-questions-what-is-a-gap-year-who-takes-them) You may wish to use the following discuss the following key components of a GAP year:
   1. Work away from home or stay at home and widen financial options
   2. Volunteer at home or abroad
   3. Travel to different parts of the world and learn another language
   4. Explore a skilled trade or get an internship to test drive a career
2. During a whole-group discussion, co-create a definition of a GAP year and discuss some possible benefits of taking a GAP year after high school. Examples of benefits include:
   1. Experience a different culture
   2. Become more financially aware
   3. Explore and discover hidden passions
   4. Time for reflection on post-secondary interests
3. Distribute **Handout [A] and [B]** to students.
4. Ask students to log in to myBlueprint and selection **Guides > Your Path After High School**
5. Invite students to read individually the first tab on the *Your Path After High School Guide* and complete **Handout [A] - My Options After High School.** They should add the co-created definition of a GAP year to their handout.
6. Ask students to review and explore the list of links related to GAP year possibilities and complete **Handout [B] - GAP Year Possibilities Comparison** to analyze and compare two different GAP year possibilities.
7. Once students have completed **Handout [B]**, have them share the GAP year link they found most interesting in their **Career Portfolio** and add a reflection.

**HANDOUT [A] - My Path After High School**

Read the *My Path After High School Guide* in myBlueprint by:

1. Clicking **Home > Guides >** Select **My Path After High School**

| What is a GAP year?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| --- |

After reading the *Your Path After High School Guide* in myBlueprint,complete the following questions

1. The graphic organizer in the *Your Path After High School Guide* displays four (4) pathways you can select during your GAP year: Work, volunteer, travel, and explore. Identify one category that interests you the most, and explain why this pathway interests you.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Based on the GAP year category you selected in question 1, provide two (2) specific examples of what you could do if you selected this pathway.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What are two (2) potential transferable skills that you can develop by choosing this pathway? Explain why you think these skills will be developed during this GAP year pathway.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**HANDOUT [B] - GAP Year possibilities Comparison**

1. Open and explore two (2) of the links provided in the *Your Path After High School* guide under the **Gap year possibilities heading** (i.e. [Discover Year](https://www.discoveryear.ca/), [International Experience Canada](https://www.cic.gc.ca/IEC-EIC/index.asp?utm_source=slash-iec_eic&utm_medium=short-url-fr&utm_campaign=iec)). Identify three (3) commonalities and two (2) differences between these opportunities.

2. Once you have completed the Venn diagram, take a picture or upload your electronic copy to your **Career Portfolio** in myBlueprint:

1. Select **Home > Portfolios** from the left-hand navigation menu in their student account
2. Click to open your **Career Portfolio**
3. Click **Add Box > Add Media >** Upload photo of venn-diagram

3. Click **+** **Add Reflection** at the bottom right corner of your Venn Diagram box**.** Your reflection should include your answers to the two (2) reflection prompts below:

1. What could be a challenge of taking GAP year?
2. What could be a benefit of a taking GAP year?
3. How does comparing the similarities and differences of two potential GAP year choices help you make a more informed decision?