

Lesson Plan

Sticking With It

Book: *Ed Sheeran*

Series: Biggest Names in Music

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students identify actions that contributed to Ed Sheeran's success as a musician, and to create a list of actions that would help them achieve goals of their own.

Supplies

- *Ed Sheeran* book
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Read the *Ed Sheeran* book out loud to students, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Ed Sheeran worked hard to achieve his dream of becoming a professional musician. He did not become a star overnight. Instead, it took many years and a lot of effort. Ask students to describe some of the steps that Ed Sheeran took to achieve his goal. Use the following sample answers as a guide:

- He learned to play guitar (page 9).
- He began writing and recording his own songs (page 10).
- He moved to London and worked as a busker (page 11).
- He played 300 live shows in one year (page 13).
- He moved to the United States for more recording opportunities (page 15).

Setting goals is an important skill. Not all goals have to be as big as getting a recording contract. For example, learning to play a new sport or reading one book each month are good small goals. Ask students to brainstorm some goals they might have for the year. They should write these goals on a sheet of paper. Then, have students choose one goal from the list. Students should make a list of five to ten steps that would help them meet that goal.

Invite a few volunteers to read their goals and steps aloud. Peers can ask questions or give kind suggestions for how to help each volunteer reach his or her goal. Remind students that it will not always be possible to reach every goal, but that they shouldn't lose heart. Instead, they can work hard like Ed Sheeran and keep trying to achieve their dreams.

Evaluation

Were students able to summarize key steps Ed Sheeran took to reach his goal? Could students brainstorm their own goals and identify ways to work toward them?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 5 (RI 5.2, 5.3).