# NEW MEXICO 4-H

## Aggie Next Step

# Entrepreneurship: Risks & Rewards




## Post Secondary Pathways

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AGGIE NEXT Soar Prosper Empower Thrive
Post Secondary Pathway Program

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# Entrepreneurship: Risks & Rewards

## Lesson Focus

Entrepreneurship is one career path that allows people to turn ideas into opportunities. It can offer independence, creativity, and financial reward, but it also involves risk, uncertainty, and responsibility. In this lesson, participants will explore whether entrepreneurship might be a career option for them – and what skills are needed to pursue it successfully.

## Supplies

- Worksheets
- Handouts
- Pens/Pencils

## Objectives

**Students will be able to:**

- **Recognize** entrepreneurship as a potential career path.
- **Identify** key skills and traits that make entrepreneurs successful.
- **Understand** that entrepreneurship involves both opportunities and risks.
- **Explore** how planning, problem-solving, and financial decision-making apply to entrepreneurial careers.

## Preparation

Review lesson materials and determine which worksheets and handouts you will use for the lesson. Print enough assessments, worksheets, and handouts for each participant.

## Activities

**1. Have participants complete the *Pre-Assessment*.**

2. Begin with a whole-class discussion:

*Q: Who has thought about being a YouTuber, influencer, content creator, or their own boss?*

Introduce *entrepreneurship* as a career path: the process of creating, organizing, and managing a business to bring value or solve a problem. Explain that entrepreneurs are people willing to take risks to develop products and start businesses. If they want to be a content creator, they are also running a business.

3. On the board, create two columns: Rewards/Risks. Brainstorm with students to complete the columns.

*Rewards: Flexible schedule, creative freedom, potential high income, large audience/influence*

*Risks: Unstable income, no guaranteed paycheck, equipment costs, algorithm changes, competition, burnout, no employer benefits (insurance, retirement)*

Emphasize that entrepreneurship is possible, but successful entrepreneurs treat it like a business and are willing/able to accept the risks.


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4. As a group, brainstorm key traits for entrepreneurial careers: *creativity, initiative, resilience, risk management, leadership, problem solving, organization, competitive, self-reliant, self-motivated, etc.*

5. Distribute ***Could You Be Your Own Boss*** worksheet and guide students through completion.

6. Think-Pair-Share wrap-up discussion:

*Q: Based on today's activities, do you see entrepreneurship as a full-time career, a side project, or not for you? What influenced your thinking?*

7. ***Exit Ticket*** – Depending on time, this can be done as a class discussion, as an individual worksheet, as homework in class, or during the following class.

**8. Have participants complete the *Post-Assessment*.**

## Reflection

Entrepreneurship can be an exciting and rewarding career path, but it requires careful planning and risk management. As you think about your future, consider how the skills of problem-solving, financial decision-making, and resilience could apply to any career you choose.







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## Extensions

Have participants create an *Entrepreneurship Career Map*. List industries that interest them, skills they could use, and risk/reward considerations.

Research a young or local entrepreneur and identify what skills helped them succeed and how they managed risk.

## Differentiation

**Content Support:** Provide a list of sample business ideas to spark thinking.

**English Language Learners:** Allow verbal responses in place of written ones and pair students with a supportive English-speaking peer.

**Processing Time:** Provide additional think time before students respond or share.

**Advanced or Early Finishers:** Challenge participants to create a 60-second pitch explaining their idea and how they will manage financial risk.


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## Resources

## Optional Videos

Note: Please preview all videos before showing them to students to ensure they are age-appropriate, relevant, and aligned with your classroom needs.

*How to be an Entrepreneur*
*https://youtu.be/lJjILQu2xM8?si=yq8h8ALUFJargGhT*

*What is an entrepreneur*
*https://youtu.be/rRpMrAMesbA?si=Kt4TLu4CwoEQ9vJ1*

*What does it take to be a successful entrepreneur*
*https://youtu.be/-qNVR5hZMzY?si=B2ObGlBDuu5x1Lpy*

*High School Entrepreneurs*
*https://youtu.be/Rh4MserNINw?si=Yv-vPd5kMI9zLM26*

*Meet the teenage entrepreneurs making millions*
*https://youtu.be/AOGDNYWfjrE?si=zVtDydw6EYxR631I*

## NM Standards:

NM PED Standards: Career and Technical Education (CTE):
9.1.1: Identify and demonstrate the use of positive work behaviors and personal qualities
9.2.2: Demonstrate skills in evaluating and comparing employment opportunities
9.2.8: Examine employment opportunities in entrepreneurship as an option
9.2.9: Understand the essential principles of an entrepreneurial organization

NM Social Studies Standards - Strand 10: Economics/Financial Literacy (Grades 9-12)
Econ. 48: Evaluate how and why individuals choose to accept risk, reduce risk, or transfer risk to others

Common Career Technical Core (CCTC) Standards: Career Ready Practices (CRP):
CRP-10: Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals

Optional ELA Alignment (Grades 6-12)
SL1: Participate in a range of conversations and collaborations