
LESSON A

Identifying Life Roles

FOCUS: Roles are parts we play. When you live on your own, you will learn to assume roles formerly filled by your parents or other adults. It's important to recognize that everyone plays a variety of roles—that the kinds of roles you play change depending where you are in your life, and, that the roles themselves change. For example, men's and women's roles have shifted in recent years.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Introduce this unit by playing a game children play (Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Freeze Tag—move if the person in charge isn't looking—"freeze" when they do—whoever is caught moving is "it.") Point out that when we were children we played children's games. When we get older, our roles change and we are expected to do different things. Sometimes people "freeze" themselves in a certain roles, but like children's games, roles change too.
2. Have students brainstorm a large list of roles that are part of daily successful living and list them on the chalkboard. (Or, write the roles on pre-cut strips of paper and put them on a bulletin board for future reference.) Roles can be related to work, apartment living, school, community, relationships.
 - wage earner: boss, clerk, secretary, truck driver, doctor, etc.
 - homemaker: cook, housecleaner, babysitter, laundry person, etc.
 - family member: spouse, parent, in-law, aunt/uncle, sister/brother, etc.
 - community member: voter, neighbor, customer, church member, etc.
 - service providers: mail deliverer, banker, police, etc.
3. Have individual students list roles they think they will be assuming when they live on their own. Then have them check how competent they feel about assuming those adult roles. Use Student Handout, "Identifying Life Roles."
4. Discuss with students: What do I still need to know about life roles before I live on my own?

CORE ISSUE 3

● *What do I need to know about life roles as I prepare to live on my own?*

Identifying Life Roles

Brainstorm a list of all the roles you can think of that are part of successful daily living—related to work, apartment living, school, community, relationships. Include all the kinds of roles others filled when they reminded you to do—make your bed, do your homework.... Then check (✓) how competent you feel about assuming roles formerly filled by your parents or other adults.

How Well Do I Fill These Roles?

Very competent Somewhat Not at all

	Very competent	Somewhat	Not at all