

Goal Envelopes

Students set a personal goal they want to achieve. They collect evidence to put in an envelope to show an audience how they are meeting or have met their goal. Students choose a time, place, and audience to present what they have accomplished.

1. Work with students to set personal goals. Pose questions such as: “What do you want to be able to do in this class by the end of term?” “What skill do you want to improve?” “What’s the one thing you’d like to try doing in this course that you’ve never done before?” (For more information on setting goals, see chapter 2 of *Self-Assessment and Goal-Setting*, the second book in this series.)
2. Show students a sample of a completed goal envelope. Explain that having someone to show their evidence to keeps them focused on their goal; keeping evidence reminds them that they are moving forward (see figure 7).
3. Give each student a nine-by-twelve-inch envelope to which you have attached a form, such as the one in figure 7. Every few weeks give them time in class to collect evidence related to their goal.
4. Provide time for students to show and talk about their evidence with partners.
5. Look at what students have included in their envelopes. Then have them show someone outside of school how they have met or are working towards their goal.
6. Have students ask their audience to respond on the envelope.