

Drug and Alcohol Prevention

Video Title: Ashley

Lesson Title: Turning Lemons into Lemonade

Grade Level: Middle School



Project and Purpose

Students research a celebrity who has turned a challenging situation into an opportunity and apply the lessons learned to their own lives.

Essential Question

What does it take to turn a challenging situation into an opportunity?

Materials

- Internet access

Procedure

1. In the video of Ashley's story, we hear her talk about how her accident is helping people make better decisions about drinking and driving or driving with someone who has been drinking. She is using her story to create something positive.
2. On the board at the front of the classroom, write the phrase "turning lemons into lemonade." Ask students to reflect on the phrase and share out what the saying means. You can clarify that it means to turn a sour situation into something sweet.
3. Discuss with students how celebrities can be great examples of people who turn challenging situations into positive opportunities. Many of our favorite celebrities have faced personal and professional challenges that have only made them stronger; when they have fallen down, they have gotten up, dusted themselves off, and tried again.
4. Explain that today we're going to research how some of our favorite celebrities have "turned lemons into lemonade" by taking a challenge or obstacle and turning it into an opportunity.
5. Ask students to choose one celebrity that inspires them that will research for this activity. (Alternatively, you can choose and assign celebrities for students to research. You can also choose to have students work independently or in collaborative groups.)
6. Students should use the Internet to research the biography of their chosen (or assigned) celebrity. As they research they should find answers to the following questions:
 - What obstacle(s) did they encounter?
 - How did they overcome the obstacle?

