

Developed by leading researchers in the field of mentoring, the Connected Scholars (CS) program provides teenagers and young adults with the network-building skills to increase college and life success.

Why is it needed?

Goals:

- College retention is a huge problem
- College engagement varies dramatically across students
- Locating and developing relationships with mentors is a lifelong skill that is rarely taught

Students learn:

- The value of building social capital to achieve life goals
- How to build their social support networks
- How to identify mentors from within their existing networks
- Help-recruiting and networking skills
- To develop relationships with potential mentors

What instructional materials are included in the Connected Scholars Kit?

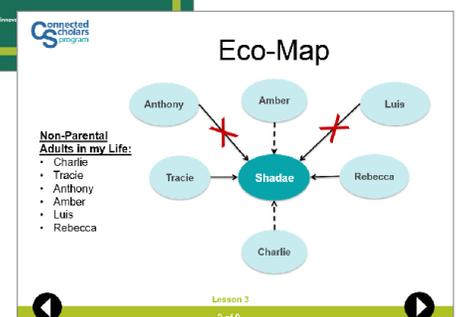
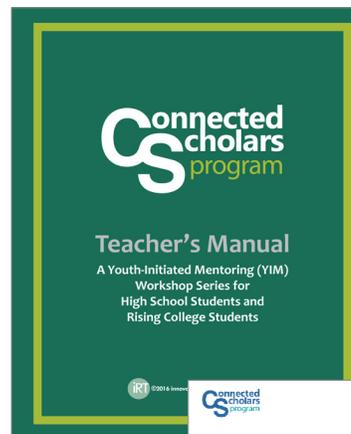
- 1 Teachers' Manual
- 30 Scholar Workbooks
- 30 Mentor Magnets
- Enrollment on the Connected Scholars website:
 - Teacher Certification Test
 - Access to online slides for facilitating workshop meetings
 - Program evaluation materials including pre- and post-tests to administer to students
- Certificate of Completion for teachers who attend the teacher training workshop and pass the certification test

What are the target audiences for this program?

- College-bound high school students
- First generation college students
- All incoming college freshman
- Transfer students

How is it implemented with students?

- Students participate in ten 90-minute classes
- Students complete homework activities after each class
- Program culminates in a networking event hosted by the teacher



What topics are included in the program?

- Benefits of building social capital
- Identifying life goals and developing plans to achieve them
- Identifying supportive adults within one's network
- Overcoming challenges to networking such as individual differences, code-switching, prejudice, and discrimination
- How to identify and recruit mentors
- Developing and maintaining a relationship with a mentor
- Skills for building your social network and social capital
- Becoming a mentor magnet

Lesson & Topic	Workbook pages
1 What is a mentor and how can mentors help me?	3-9
2 What are some of my life goals and how can I achieve them?	10-15
3 Who are the adults in my life and what types of support can they provide to me?	16-22
4 How do I cope with and overcome challenges to networking?	23-28
5 How do I identify and recruit mentors?	29-31
6 How do I develop a relationship with a mentor?	32-34
7 How do I maintain current and develop new mentoring relationships?	35-38
8 How do I develop and maintain mentoring relationships in college?	39-40
9 How do I build my social network and become a mentor magnet?	41-44
10 Networking event	45-49

What is included in the instructional materials?

- Goals for each lesson
- Outline for each lesson
- List of materials needed to teach each lesson
- Scripted lesson plans containing:
 - In-class interactive discussions and small group activities
 - Role plays and skill-building activities
- Scholar Workbooks containing handouts and homework assignments
- Helpful hints and reminders
- Online slides for teaching program

Code-Switching

Cons Pros

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What do *you* think?

Lesson 4
7 of 10

What happens in the Connected Scholars Teacher Training Workshop?

How long does the training take? Two-day comprehensive training workshop

Where is it held? Contact us to discuss options

What topics are addressed?

- History and research on youth-initiated mentoring
- Conceptual framework and logic model for the Connected Scholars program
- Detailed review of each lesson including how each topic relates to the model and suggestions for teaching each lesson
- Review of research and tools to enhance fidelity of implementation

Are there any additional requirements for teaching the program to students? Yes. You complete a 1-hour, online certification test after attending the training workshop and receive a certificate of completion.

Who developed the program?

Drs. Sarah Schwartz, Janis Kupersmidt, Jean Rhodes, and Stella Kanchewa – international experts on mentoring.

What does it cost to host a Connected Scholar teacher training workshop?

Contact Bud Lavery for a quote at blavery@irtinc.us or call (919)493-7700.