

The Dream and Beyond: My Story

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Word count: 156

(p. 3, not including the caption)

Overview

The author describes his journey to becoming a professional basketball player and his later transition to a career in teaching. He highlights life skills, such as goal setting and overcoming challenges.

Genre/Text Type

Non-fiction/Autobiography

Text Features

Boldface type, captions, glossary, headings, labels, map, photos, sidebars, table of contents

Connection

Health and Physical Education

Positive Motivation and Perseverance

Vocabulary

Words that might require clarification include *committed*, *dislocated*, *dynamic*, *former*, *impact* (noun), *inspired*, *mentor*, *mindset*, *qualify*, *racial slurs*, *roster*, *setbacks*, *showcase* (verb), *significance*, *tutors*, and *varsity*. Additional words are defined in the glossary.

Setting Goals

After reading, consider discussing with students the importance of setting goals. You might introduce **SMART goals** (goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound) and invite students to each write one short-term or long-term SMART goal they would like to achieve.

eBook Activities

Activating Prior Knowledge (page 2); **Using Text Features** (page 10); **Summarizing** (page 23)

Extensions

Predicting: Before reading, consider asking students: *What does “setting a goal” mean? Why do people set goals? Is it important to set goals? Why or why not? Would you like to share a goal you have set?*

Summarizing: Students could create a timeline to summarize the most important events in Jason’s life. They can include dates provided in the text; events without a date can be included chronologically.

Synthesizing: You might invite small groups of students to list three to four strategies for coping with setbacks and disappointments. The groups could consider their own ideas, as well as those in the text.

Making Connections: **AT HOME** Jason shares various role models he admires. Who is someone you look up to? Why? Write a paragraph explaining why you admire that person and what you have learned from them. In class, ask a partner to check your paragraph for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

