Lesson 4

Will You Make Cents in the New Century?

Goal: To show students that they will need an education to be able to complete even everyday functions in the new millennium.

Materials: Marker board, markers, pens, one copy for each student of the "Will You Make Cents in the New Century?" handout.

1. ▲ Distribute the pens and the copies of the "Will You Make Cents in the New Century?" handout, and ask the students to complete the form, then discuss. Assist the students to discover that they may not be adequately prepared to survive in the new millennium.

2. ▲ Ask the students to list items that are now considered outdated and obsolete, and elicit answers such as "outhouses," "record players" and "egg beaters." Assist the students to recognize that change is inevitable, and how quickly change can come. Ask the students to list all the inventions that they can think of that occurred just during their lifetimes. Elicit answers such as "cellular phones" and "e-mail." Assist the class to discover that the pace of change is actually accelerating rapidly compared to the past.

3. ▲ Now that students better recognize that change is inevitable and swift, ask the students to consider if they are going to be ready to keep up with the pace of change in the future. Ask students to give examples of people they know who have not kept up with change. Elicit answers such as "my mom still has to use a typewriter because she can't figure out a computer." Ask the class to determine which they prefer: to be left behind, stuck using outdated and obsolete things because they lack the skills to do otherwise, or to have the skills and education to keep up, and master any change that occurs in the new millennium.

4. ▲ Review the major points of this lesson:
   - More skills and education than ever before may be needed to survive in the new millennium.
   - Change is inevitable, and the pace of change may actually be getting faster and faster.
   - Only by completing school, can you acquire the skills and education you need to keep up with the fast and dramatic changes expected during the new millennium.
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1. For my career in the new millennium, the equipment I am already most prepared to use is:
   A) A computer network
   B) The internet
   C) A hair net

2. I'll be ready when all e-mail is electronic mail because I already know that an ISP is:
   A) Inkless Scented Postcards sent by computer, that smell good too!
   B) Iridescent Stamped Postcards that are sent by computer and glow in the dark
   C) An Internet Service Provider who links you to the internet

3. When discussing chips, I feel knowledgeable enough to discuss:
   A) The most important reasons to select fast computer chips
   B) The most important reasons to buy only computers that use Intel chips
   C) The most important reasons to buy taco chips not potato chips

4. When people talk about the new millennium, I know that they're referring to:
   A) That hot, new grunge group from Seattle, 10,000 Men in a Van
   B) The mineral found in milk that you have to get 1,000 milligrams of every day
   C) The 1,000 years that began in the year 2000

5. I'm ready to deal with high tech problems like spam that will occur in this new century because I know:
   A) That Spam is best served hot
   B) That Spam is best when not served at all
   C) That Spam can clutter up e-mail terribly, making it hard to notice important items

6. In this new millennium, almost everything will be run by computer, and computers often have problems. To fix a computer, sometimes you have to:
   A) Throw your boot at it
   B) Just boot at it
   C) Re-boot it

7. One of the most exciting, high-paying jobs that will exist in this new century is webmasters, who:
   A) Work with spiders
   B) Work only on Halloween
   C) Work to create and manage internet sites

8. When people ask me if my home, business or work place has wi-fi, they mean:
   A) Do I have wide fries?
   B) Do I have wise flies?
   C) Is there a wireless internet connection?

9. Soon, everyone may need to use the net, so you'll need to know that on the net, a cookie is:
   A) A virtual treat that's good with milk
   B) An item sold by Girl Scouts
   C) Information that people on the net can gather about you without you ever knowing

SCORING:
8-9 Right...You'll Be Master of the Millennium
6-7 Right...You May Be Mystified by the Millennium
5 or Less Right...Don't Start the Millennium Without More Education!