

Bringing SkillsUSA Into the Classroom

Not sure how to introduce SkillsUSA to your students at the start of the year? Here is a strategy that worked well for one veteran advisor—and how you can adapt it to meet your students' needs. Best Wishes!

START WITH A CONVERSATION: Introduce the Framework

- Try This:
Play the [SkillsUSA Framework Video](#) and have students jot down three things that stood out to them. Use their responses to spark a class discussion.
- Conversation Starters:
 - What surprised you about the Framework?
 - Have you ever heard of the 1:2:7 ratio? (For every 1 job requiring a master's degree, there are 2 requiring a bachelor's and 7 needing technical skills.)
 - What does success look like beyond college?
- Make It Yours:
 - Tie the conversation into a classroom culture discussion.
 - Relate the Framework to upcoming units, projects, or student goals.

BRING THE FRAMEWORK TO LIFE WITH GOAL-SETTING:

- Try This:
Use the [Behaviors and Definitions Chart](#) from the Framework Toolkit as a student goal-setting tool. Ask students to choose one Essential Element (like responsibility, communication, or adaptability) to focus on each week or month.
- Make It Yours:
 - Create a reflection journal or digital check-in system.
 - Tie student-chosen elements to classroom activities or behavior expectations.

INTEGRATE WITH WHAT YOU'RE ALREADY DOING

- Try This:
Use the [Framework Integration Toolkit](#) connect the Framework with:
 - Guest speakers
 - Lab expectations
 - Field trips
 - Classroom activities
- Make It Yours:
 - Highlight real-world applications in your lesson plans.
 - Ask guest speakers to refer to the Framework in their talks.

MAKE IT VISIBLE AND CONSISTENT

- Try This:
Post the [SkillsUSA Framework](#) on your classroom wall—somewhere visible but natural. Refer to it often in conversation with students. You can also post the Framework poster included in your fall membership mailing.
- Make It Yours:
 - Use SkillsUSA Framework language when giving feedback.
 - Create SkillsUSA Framework-based student recognition cards or shoutout moments.

RELIABLE RESOURCES

- [SkillsUSA Framework Video](#)
- [Behaviors and Definitions Chart](#)
- **Framework Integration Toolkit** (in SkillsUSA LMS, Professional member benefit)
- **Framework Poster** (mailed to you in the fall membership mailing)

PRO TIP

IF YOUR SCHOOL OFFERS end-of-year recognition such as graduation cords for SkillsUSA involvement, make sure students know from the beginning of the school year about it. You can order graduation regalia from the [SkillsUSA Store](#).