

# COLLEGEBOUND EXPERTS

## PASSION PLAYBOOK

The **CollegeBound Experts (CBE) Passion Playbook** is your personalized guide to **discovering, organizing, and showcasing** what makes you unique! Whether you're just starting to think about college (8th, 9th 10 Grades) or you're already deep in the application process (11th and 12th Grades), this Playbook will help you craft a **profile that reflects the real you**.

With the *CBE Passion Playbook*, you can:

- **Identify What Drives You:** Explore and document the activities, hobbies, and causes you care about most.
- **Connect Your Interests To Your Future:** Learn how to link your passions to potential majors, careers, and extracurriculars.
- **Craft Compelling Stories:** Use your Playbook to brainstorm and develop unique, authentic college essays and application materials.
- **Build A Standout Profile:** Highlight your strengths and create a cohesive, memorable application that showcases your true self.

### What Can You Do with the CBE Passion Playbook?

1

#### Create Your Master List:

Start by jotting down everything that interests you—big or small. From hobbies to school subjects, to causes you're passionate about, everything counts! Keep adding to this list as you discover new interests.

2

#### Reflect on Your Experiences:

Dive deeper into your passions. What activities make you lose track of time? What experiences have shaped who you are? Write down your thoughts and feelings—this is where your unique story begins.

3

#### Make Connections:

Look for patterns and connections between your interests. How do your hobbies relate to potential college majors? How can your experiences translate into meaningful essays? This is where your profile starts to take shape.

4

#### Brainstorm Essay Ideas

Use your Playbook as a springboard for essay topics. Your passions and experiences are the key to writing essays that stand out and resonate with admissions officers.

5

#### Showcase Your Strengths

Your Playbook isn't just for essays—it's a tool to help you identify and highlight your strengths in every part of your application, from your Activity Lists to your resume and interviews.

#### Do This Now!

Start capturing your passions and interests in a journal or digital tool like Google Docs, Notion, or any app you prefer—this will be your go-to resource for creating a standout college profile!

## How to Use the CBE Passion Playbook to Explore and Identify Your Profile Strengths

### At Home:

- **Set Aside Reflection Time:** Dedicate a few minutes each week to add to your Playbook. This could be after a new experience, a deep conversation, or when something sparks your interest.
- **Review Regularly:** Revisit your Playbook often. Look for emerging themes, new ideas, and areas where you can deepen your involvement.
- **Experiment and Explore:** Try out new activities that align with your interests. Your Playbook will guide you in finding experiences that strengthen your profile.

### For College Applications:

- **Essay Crafting:** Use your Playbook to find unique angles for your essays. Let your genuine passions and experiences shine through in your writing.
- **Resume Building:** Highlight your key strengths and activities that align with your academic and career goals.
- **Interview Prep:** Your Playbook can serve as a quick reference for interviews, helping you articulate your passions confidently and authentically.

#### Reflection

Example: Following a thought-provoking conversation with a teacher about climate change, you jot down how it sparked your curiosity about environmental science. You write about your desire to understand more on the impact of climate change on your community and your growing interest in joining/starting a sustainability club at school. This reflection helps you capture the initial moment of inspiration and the emotions tied to it.

#### Review

Example: A few weeks later, you revisit your Playbook and notice that environmental science keeps coming up in your reflections, from watching documentaries to reading articles on renewable energy. This consistent interest suggests that it might be more than just a passing curiosity. You also see that you've expressed a strong desire to take action, which reinforces the idea of joining the sustainability club and perhaps even starting your own environmental initiative.

#### Explore

Example: To further explore this interest, through your sustainability club activities soon discover a passion for reducing plastic waste. You volunteer to lead a recycling program on campus, gaining hands-on experience and concrete examples for your college applications. Additionally, you might take an online course on environmental policy or participate in a local cleanup drive to further your understanding.