Lesson Title: **Game of Life**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of time:</th>
<th>Subject area being addressed:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60 min</td>
<td>Decision making and life planning</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cultural exploration</td>
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**Objective of the lesson (what is the point):**
Reflect on valuable life lessons and celebrate cultural differences during a classic Game of Life!

**List of materials:**
- Game of Life
- Pencils for each student
- Copies of “Reflections from the Game of Life” for each student
- Copy of “Supplemental Questions for the Game of Life”
  - Cut out each question and number them 1-3. Teams will “draw” these cards when they pass through the checkpoint.

1. **Get Background Knowledge.** Indicate what questions you will ask. Choose a Questioning Strategy from the list called “Questioning Strategies”

   **(5 min)**
   - Hand out copies of “Reflections from the Game of Life” to **each student**.
   - Explain that we will be playing a game today, and throughout the game students should think about what parts of the game can relate to our real lives.
   - Briefly read through the questions on the handout together before starting the game. Students will think about these questions and topics while playing the game.

2. **Activity and Lesson (describe and include all materials needed):**
   - **Play the Game of Life (45-50 min)**
     - Thoroughly read the instructions to the game **before** lesson time!! Make sure you understand how to play and can clearly explain.
     - You will need to partner up peer mentors and students. Make sure there is a maximum of **one** peer mentor in each group. They will play the game as a team.
       - The game only has four player pieces, so ideally there would be a maximum of four teams. If this doesn’t work for your site, you can make new player pieces with paper or random objects. Due to limited game supplies, a maximum of 6 teams would be ideal.

     1. As students go through the game, there will be different checkpoints where all teams will have to answer a reflection question (see: Supplemental Questions for the Game of Life). The first team to pass through the checkpoint will read the question to the rest of the teams.
     2. Give teams 2-3 minutes to discuss the answer of the questions amongst themselves. Peer mentors in each team will need to facilitate this conversation. Remember, there is **no right**
answer. Different cultures will have different perspectives and ways of thinking about life. Embrace these differences and value every contribution to the conversation.

3. Each person on the team should write down their answer in the blank box next to the question on their reflection papers.
4. Explain that at the end of the game, if everyone person on their team has an answer to the question written on their paper, their team will get an extra $50,000 for each question (up to $300,000 extra).

Supplemental Questions for the Game of Life:
Marriage and Family #1
• In the game, is marriage the same as starting a family? Do you think it happens the same way in real life?
Marriage and Family #2
• When do you get married in the game? Is it before job/college, before kids? Does it happen the same way in real life?
Marriage and Family #3
• In the game, what is the consequence of having children? Do you get paid money or do you have to pay money to afford them? Is this the same in real life?

Education and Career #1
• Do individuals who chose a college degree get jobs that made more money? Is this the same in real life?
Education and Career #2
• In the game, what kind of events would make you go into debt or lose money? Can these same things happen in real life? What should we do to prepare?
Education and Career #3
• How do we “win” the game of life? Is this how we “win” real life?