Purpose of the Activity & How to Play

For Students
• To give students a visual that represents a variety of post-school outcomes and allow them to express what is important to them
• To aid in development of long term goals

Effective for students who have fine motor and communication needs

How It Works with an Individual Student
• Students choose what is important to them
  ⇒ Use their choices as a springboard for further discussion, transition planning or a way for the student to share with the IEP team their preferences
  ⇒ Match choices to areas on a transition plan: Instruction, Community Experiences, Daily Living, Employment, Related Services

For Team Members
• To help team members realize that each person brings a different perspective to what is most important in transition planning
  ⇒ Similarities and differences that emerge will help the team members develop a cohesive transition plan for life after high school

How It Works as a Group Activity
Participant Groups:
• Teachers and service providers
• Students and adults with disabilities
• Parents, guardians and family members
  ⇒ If the audience is a mixed group of teachers, students, and parents have each group look at cards and pick the 5 most important to independent living and transition planning
  ⇒ Every group must come to consensus!
  ⇒ Facilitator moves between groups to assist

Compare Choices and Discuss

Questions to Consider...
• Are the choices identified as important by the student in the IEP Transition Plan?
• Are services being provided that will lead to desired post-school outcomes?
• Does the student need real life experiences to broaden their view?

The Importance of Comparing Input from Everyone
Students typically choose what is important TO them.
Parents and teachers typically focus on what is important FOR the student.
Example:
It is important TO the student to have money.
It is important FOR the student to learn how to manage a budget.
Both perspectives are valid and should be addressed

To purchase a set of STEP’s Dream Building Activity cards for your school, facility or individual needs contact STEP, Inc. at information@tnstep.org with your request.