

Beyond the syllabus

Explore beyond your course. Catch the big ideas.



NAME _____ SUBJECT I WANT TO STUDY _____ TERM _____

LEARNING GOAL

I can explore my subject beyond the syllabus and record what I learn.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

- ☐ I can tell super-curricular from extra-curricular.
- ☐ I can log a clear source and one big idea in my own words.
- ☐ I can reflect deeply and link activities into a thread.

1 Super-curricular or extra-curricular?

S Super-curricular

Going **deeper into your subject**, beyond the syllabus.

Books, articles, lectures, podcasts, courses, museums.

E Extra-curricular

Wider activities that build you as a person, not about your subject.

Sport, music, drama, volunteering, clubs.

💡 Why it matters

- Test how much you love the subject.
- Practise independent study.
- Gain real ideas to discuss.

2 My activity log

Circle the type. Describe the source so you could find it again.

(B) Book (A) Article (L) Lecture (P) Podcast (C) Online course (M) Museum or event

NO.	DATE	TYPE	TITLE AND SOURCE	TIME
Eg	4 Oct	(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)	EXAMPLE Free public lecture on climate modelling at a local university	1 h 30
	ONE BIG IDEA <i>Models are checked by running them on the past and comparing with real records.</i>			
1		(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)		
	ONE BIG IDEA			
2		(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)		
	ONE BIG IDEA			
3		(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)		
	ONE BIG IDEA			
4		(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)		
	ONE BIG IDEA			
5		(B) (A) (L) (P) (C) (M)		
	ONE BIG IDEA			

Go deeper: reflect and connect

One activity thought through well is worth more than ten listed.



3 Deep reflection on my best activity Pick the one that made you think hardest, not the most impressive.

My best activity (log number and title) _____ Why I chose it _____

A What did I learn?

Before this I thought... Now I think...

B How does it connect to my subject?

This links to ... in my course because...

C What do I disagree with or want to explore next?

I am not convinced that... because...

D How might I use this in a personal statement or interview?

If someone asked me about it, I would explain...

4 Follow a thread

Link three activities so each one grows from a question the last one raised.

1	Where it started: activity _____	The question it raised _____
2	What I followed up _____	The question it raised _____
3	Where it took me _____	The question I am left with _____
🎯	My developing interest, in one sentence _____	

Example thread: a podcast on how new medicines are tested, then an article on the placebo effect, then a statistics course unit. **Interest:** how we know a treatment really works.



GO FURTHER

Find a serious source that argues against part of your thread. Note its strongest point and your answer.