

Tool 23 – Purpose First

Purpose First

Purpose First helps you think about why you are learning something before you start.

When to Use Purpose First

Use Purpose First before beginning a new subject, lesson, unit, or project.

Optional Learner Information

Contact information is optional. Provide it only if you would like the teacher, manager, or form organizer to identify or follow up on your response.

Learner's name: _____

Email address: _____

Class or subject: _____

1. What subject or topic are you about to learn?

2. Why does learning this matter beyond receiving a grade?

3. How could this connect to your life, interests, goals, community, or future?

4. Where could this knowledge or skill be used in the real world?

5. What do you hope to understand or be able to do?

6. In one sentence, what is your purpose for learning this?

Simple Purpose First Class Period

Purpose First can be more than a form. Consider creating a Purpose First lesson or class period before beginning a new subject or unit. Show learners how the subject is used in real life, who benefits from it, what problems it helps solve, and how it may connect to their goals. Allow learners to discuss these ideas before completing the form

1. Introduce the new subject or unit.
2. Show a real-life example of how it is used.
3. Discuss why the subject matters.
4. Ask learners who could benefit from understanding it.
5. Let learners complete the Purpose First form.
6. Invite learners to share their purpose statements.
7. Use their responses to make the upcoming lessons more relevant.

Teachers could also create a full "Purpose First Day" for a major subject or unit