



## COLLEGE DOOR WARS | CREATING VISUAL REPRESENTATIONS OF COLLEGES

**AUDIENCE:** 7-12th grade students

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** College viewbooks, promotional materials or websites, markers, crayons, colored pencils, construction paper, butcher paper, glue, tape, scissors, or anything else needed to express creativity.

**PURPOSE:** This activity encourages students to learn about colleges, through a variety of commonly available facts and figures, and to express that information in a creative door poster for others to view. These college door posters are one way to initiate conversations about the different types of colleges.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide each classroom with a piece of butcher paper that fits their classroom door.

Choose a college to represent with the door poster. There are many ways to pick a college to represent. For example, assign specific colleges to doors, choose only South Dakota colleges, or use the teacher's alma mater. The choice of which college to represent can be made by the teacher or by student vote.

Provide students with a list of all items that must be included on their door poster. We would suggest using the following items to guide student's creativity and research:

Name of College	Popular majors	Student traditions
Location	Nicknames or Mascot	Notable sports teams
Number of students	Rivalries	Favorite student clubs and organizations

Students can be creative in how they express this information using provided materials.

You can make this a friendly competition by allowing students to vote on their favorite door poster—winner getting bragging rights or a small prize.

**MODIFICATIONS:** If class size is such that there are too many students to easily work on one door poster, students can be broken up into small groups and each group can choose a college to research and represent. This will lead to more than one poster per classroom. Additional posters could be displayed in the classroom, hallway, or common areas.

Additionally, this activity could span more than one day. On the first day, students could pick a college (or be assigned a college) and complete the needed research. On day two, students could execute the design of their door poster.