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| **Grade: Six** | **Session One** |
| **Materials Needed: composition notebook** for each scholar and mentor, two pocket folder for each scholar, copies of the lyrics of the song, “Shining Star” by Earth, Wind, and Fire, star template, and mentor’s toolbox | **Focus: Relationship Building; Introduction to NorthStar Initiative and purpose of sessions** |

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| **Lesson Title: You’re a SHINING Star!** |

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| **Note about Mentor Toolbox: It is suggested that the mentor is provided with items that would make his/her time with the scholar more effective. The suggested items are composition notebooks and pocket folders for each scholar, highlighters, pencils, and post it notes.** **Before the Lesson: Being that this is the first lesson of 30, it highly recommended that the mentor comes to the session with loads of excitement about working with your shining star(s)!! The mentor will need to be able to play the sound “Shining Star” on his/her smartphone or technology device. Please be prepared to share this song with the scholar as it is crucial to the kickoff lesson.** **Step One**:  **Getting to Know Your “Shining Star**” *Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am super excited to have the opportunity to work with you over the course of several weeks! To start our session today, I want us to begin to get to know each other! I am going to share 5 “would you rather” statements with you. I would like you to tell me which you would rather do, be, etc. and then explain your choice. I just want to warn you--you will have a tough time deciding!* **( At this point, share each “would you rather” statement. Give scholar time to think about statement before making a decision. Please ask question and/or probe for more details regarding why he/she made the decision he/she made. Feel free to join in on the fun as well! Building a relationship with the scholar is important and a key to successful and productive work sessions!)****Would You Rather Questions:*** *Would you rather live one life that lasts 1,000 years or live 10 lives that last 100 years each?*
* *Would you rather be able to change the past or be able to see into the future?*
* *Would you rather be invisible or have the ability to fly?*
* *Would you rather never laugh again or never use your smartphone again?*
* *Would you rather live up high in the sky like stars or deep down in the ocean like starfish?*

**Step Two:** **Introduction to NorthStar Initiative/Purpose of sessions:** *What do you know about stars?* **(Allow scholar time to think and to discuss what he/she knows about stars. After a few minutes, share the list of 6 cool things about stars with the scholar.)**  *I am going to share with you 6 cool facts about stars. Listen closely!** ***Every star you see in the night sky is bigger and brighter than our sun.***
* ***You can’t see millions of stars on a dark night.*** *Despite what you may hear in TV commercials, poems and songs, you cannot see a million stars … anywhere. There simply are not enough close enough and bright enough.*
* ***Red equals hot and cool equals blue--NOT!*** *. The red stars you see in the sky are the “coolest” (least hot), and the blue stars are the hottest!*
* ***Despite how often stars are claimed to “twinkle” this is not true.*** *The twinkling effect is merely the light from the star passing through the Earth’s atmosphere, and it is merely deflecting the light before it reaches your eyes.*
* ***The distances involved in measuring how far away a star is are immense.*** *Consider that the closest star to Earth is approximately 4.2 light years away. It would take about 70,000 years in our fastest space craft to reach it.*

*You were chosen to work with me because you, too, are a STAR! In fact, you are a SHINING star! Our superintendent, Ann Clark, is very passionate about literacy. She wants all students to become the very best readers that they possibly can! So, she challenged people to become mentors to a very special group of students in CMS so that they will be the very best readers by the end of the school year. I agreed to come work with you once a week for the next 30 weeks because I want to help you become the BRIGHTEST star that you possibly can become! I am so excited that I was partnered up with you. We are going to have some SHINING moments together!**(***Give students his/her composition notebook or spiral notebook that will be used as his/her Reader’s/Writer’s notebook.)** *Each session, you will bring with your Reader’s/Writer’s notebook, your folder, and a pen/pencil. Turn to the first page of your notebook. Label that page with this title Five Cool Things about \_\_(scholar’s name)\_\_\_, the SHINING Star! I want you to make a list of 5 cool things about yourself. Try to think of facts that no one really knows about you. Think about your hobbies, things you like to do, your family, favorite foods, etc. to help you come up with ideas! Try to make them interesting and unique! I will write my own list in my notebook as well. When we are finished we will share our list with each other.* (**Give the scholar 5-7 minutes to compose a list. Please take time to allow scholar to share his/her list. Again, use this time to get to know your scholar. It is o.k. to question and/or probe for more details about the information that is shared. Building a relationship with the scholar is important and a key to successful and productive work sessions!)****Step Three:** **Wishing Upon a Star--Setting Personal Goals: (Pass out the star template to the scholar(s). Scholars will use this to write five personal goals that he/she will set out to accomplish over the next 30 weeks. The goals should be reading related; however, it is o.k. if the scholar(s) wants to include a personal goal unrelated to reading on the star. The stars will be glued to the first page of his/her Reader’s/Writer’s notebook. It is highly recommended that the mentor identifies goals that he/she would like to achieve as well! Please be willing to share your goals with the scholar(s).)** **Step Four:** **“Shining Star” by Earth, Wind, and Fire:** *I am going to play a song for you in a moment. It might be a song that you are familiar with! All I want you to do is follow along as the song is playing. I have a copy of the lyrics to the song so that you can do so. Ready?* **(Mentor plays the song.)** Now that the song is over, I want you to look back over the lyrics and do the following:* *Highlight or underline* ***3*** *lines in the song that stand out. These are lines that you think are important or you just like for whatever reason.* **(Before moving to the next task, have a discussion about the lines that the scholar highlighted.)**
* *In the margin, write* ***2*** *thoughts you have about the song. Your thoughts can be a simple comment, a question, a connection, etc. (***Before moving to the next task, have a discussion about the thoughts that the scholar have.)**
* *At the top of your page, write* ***1*** *life lesson that you learned from this song.* **(Here’s an example of a life lesson: “That I can be whatever I want to be! or “I am a shining star!” Don’t share the examples with the scholar. I just wanted to be clear as to what I meant by life lesson! Again, have a discussion with the scholar about what he/she learned from the song.)**
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| **Closure**:  *I’ve enjoyed our time together and I’m already looking forward to next week! You did an amazing job today*. **(Please give specific feedback at this point.) Possible feedback starters: I liked the way you\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. or I was impressed when you\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.** *What comments or questions do you have for me?* **Answer the questions, if you are able and/or willing to do so. End the session with a handshake and the words, “*continue to be a SHINING star today*!”** **(Scholars should keep all handouts referenced today in their two pocket folder.)** |
| **After Session:** Before you leave please fill out the Teacher/Mentor Communication Log, check the school calendar for potential conflicting and upcoming events, check your personal calendar to make sure you will be able to return when you told the scholar you would as the scholar will be looking forward to seeing you, and share any questions or concerns with a school employee—teacher, counselor, principal, etc.—before leaving the building. Thank you for sharing your time and talent!  |

**Created by Okema Owens Simpson September 2015**