

Name _____

Color the Colligations Answer Key

Correctly Identified Colligations

Verb + Noun (Yellow / Underline):

- make a choice
- take responsibility
- pay attention
- give advice
- set goals
- work hard
- gain experience
- keep track
- take action
- reach her dream
- support her family

Adjective + Preposition (Green / Circle):

- interested in
- capable of
- afraid of
- confident in

Verb + Preposition (Blue / Box):

- apply for
- focus on
- rely on
- deal with
- prepare for
- move forward

Teacher Notes

- **Purpose:** This activity pushes students to *notice patterns* rather than just fill blanks. By visually coding colligations, they internalize which words “belong together.”
- **Differentiation:**
 - Beginners: only identify **Verb + Noun** collocations first.
 - Advanced: expand to note subtle differences (e.g., *pay attention to* → verb + noun + preposition).
- **Extension Idea:** After highlighting, have students write a new short passage (4-5 sentences) that uses at least one example from each group.