

Theme: OTHERS

Educational Resources: 7th – 12th Grades

Title: Impactful Historical Figures...Fast!

Subject: Social Studies or English

Prep Time: 5 -15 minutes (Gather biographies)

Activity Time: One class period

Activity Description:

The purpose of this lesson is to recognize the positive impact of someone in history. Help your students learn about someone who made a difference in a quick research project! This is a mini research project that uses their quick computer skills and/or library resources. Part of the fun is going fast!

Direct Instruction –

Let you students know they will be “flash researching” a historic figure that made the world a better place and is creating ripples of kindness A historical figure is a person who lived in the past and whose deeds exerted a significant impact on other people’s lives and consciousness. These people helped OTHERS in their community or possibly reached even farther. They may be assigned, choose a one that they admire, or they can choose from the list below. If choosing a person, they must get him/her approved by you. The main requirement is that they made a positive impact. Teachers may assign the historical figure to save time. If assigning, consider choosing someone that looks like them (i.e. gender or race) or are interested in the same topics (i.e. medicine, science, peace, war, or politics).

List of Potential Historical Figures

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Nelson Mandela | 11. Malala Yousafzai |
| 2. Ruth Bader Ginsburg | 12. Mahatma Gandhi |
| 3. Martin Luther King Jr. | 13. Niels Bohlin |
| 4. Harriet Tubman | 14. Maurice Ralph Hillerman |
| 5. Vasili Arkhipov | 15. Norman Borlaug |
| 6. Tu Youyou | 16. Eugene Lazowski |
| 7. Anne Frank | 17. Rick Rescorla |
| 8. Elisabeth Cady Stanton | 18. Ida B Wells |
| 9. Rachel Carson | 19. Florence Nightingale |
| 10. Aristotle | 20. Alexander Fleming |

Individual Activity –

Research on your computer or from the books provided by the teacher/librarian for 10- 15 minutes only – (Not Wikipedia) and answer the following questions about your person.

- Who did you choose and why were you drawn to that person?
- When did they live/die?
- What did they accomplish that made a significant impact in the lives of others?
- How did it make the world better? What is the current ripple effect of their actions?
- Include one- three interesting anecdotes about the person.
- What sources did you use in your research?

Make a 1 page presentation- within 5-10 minutes (Use PowerPoint or other display method, like a poster, Canva, etc.)

- Include two (2) photos of the person
- A photo, image or description of what they did
- Their birth and death dates
- The continent, country, state or other description of where they lived
- Photo or description of the current impact you believe they made

Group Discussion –

In your small groups of 3-4 students- take turns spending about 3-5 minutes each to present your results

- a. Share your screen with your PowerPoint or show the poster you made
- b. Discuss the following questions
 - i. Who is your person
 - ii. What did they do
 - iii. How did it make the world better
 - iv. What is your interesting anecdote about them

Outcome Measurement:

Turn in the following items

1. Your PowerPoint page or poster
2. A list of something you learned about each of the OTHER people discussed in your group
 - a. The person's name
 - b. Their impact- when it happened and/or current ripple it is making in the world

Sources:

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www.Nobelprize.org

Aligns with Kansas State Standard:

- Social Emotional Character Development Standards, Character Development Model Standards
 - Personal Development – Self-Management
 - Social Development – Social Awareness

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****Disclaimer: The lesson plan above should be adapted to your class- grade level, knowledge base, time restrictions, class make up, etc. Only use what works for your situation.**