

Alison Annis
ED320E

Racism Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 3rd

Time Required: 45 minutes

Supplies needed: Oranges (one for each student), paper and pencil

Subject: Health (Social/behavioral health)

Goal: Students will be able to identify/describe racism and list one way to avoid practicing it in the classroom as well as their own lives.

Cultural Standard addressed:

3(f) help their students to understand and compare different notions of cultural diversity from within and beyond their own community and cultural region, including factors that come into play within culturally mixed and blended families.

SOE Teacher Candidate Goal/Outcome:

6. Create and manage a stimulating, inclusive and safe learning community in which students take intellectual risks and work independently and collaboratively.

Activity:

- Begin by handing out the oranges to each student.
- Ask them to get familiar with their orange, taking note of the shape, size, sticker, blemish, bruise, etc. (five minutes)
- Collect all the oranges
- Mix them up and then ask students to identify and claim their orange. (apparently students can do this easily)
- Have each student peel their orange carefully keeping it intact.
- Collect all the oranges
- Mix them up in the container or bowl
- Ask the students to come locate and claim their orange...hard to do, they are all the same
~ They all look the same inside!~

Discussion:

Lead a discussion on how people, like the oranges, are all the same inside and what that means.

Discuss what makes us individuals (our skin color or our character?)

Discuss types of discrimination and prejudice and ways of avoiding racist behavior (i.e. meeting someone new & forming an opinion based on the conversation not on skin color)

Assessment:

Students write a description of racism or discrimination in their own words. Students also write a description of the best way to counter discrimination (i.e. what could they do instead). Depending on responses, another discussion may be in order. Students get credit for the activity and written response.

(While students are writing, wash all the oranges for snack after they turn in their paper)

References:

<http://classroomlessonplans.blogspot.com/2011/03/introduction-to-racism-for-elementary.html>

Guidelines for Preparing Culturally Responsive Teachers for Alaska's Schools: <http://ankn.uaf.edu/Publications/Teacher.pdf>

SOE Conceptual Framework, Goal #6