

Language Arts / Social Studies Lesson Plan

What's in a Name?

Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings:

OSEU 2.6-8.1 - Students are able to identify two of the values, rights, philosophy, and beliefs of Oceti Sakowin people.

OSEU 4.6-8.2 – Students are able to compare and contrast Euro-American values to Oceti Sakowin values.

Common Core State Standards:

RL8.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

W8.3.d - Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.

W8.10 - Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

SL8.1 – Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 8 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clarity.

SL8.5 – Integrate multimedia and visual displays into presentations to clarify information, strengthen claims and evidence, and add interest.

Introduction:

- Names and naming ceremonies play a huge role in understanding personal identity—among the people of the Oceti Sakowin and among all cultures
- Often, in contemporary society, much of the meaning and ceremony around names is lost
- Understanding and embracing my names—given names or names I have taken myself—lends itself to a deeper understanding of personal identity, personal strengths and vision for the future

Language Arts Lesson:



- Show Studio C “What’s in a Name?” video
 - Whole Class Circle Discussion:
 - Do you think people really judge others’ based on a name?
 - How might that be a problem?
 - How might that be a positive thing?
- Show Alice Walker Name Video
 - Whole Class Circle Discussion:
 - Why do you think Alice Walker decided to keep the name Walker?
 - Do you think this might be a help to her? Why?
 - Have you or someone you know chosen a name for a particular reason?
 - Is there a story behind your name that you could share with the group?
- Acronym activity
 - Choose a name that is your name (first, last, middle, nickname, etc)
 - Create an acronym of your name, choosing words that reflect the traits, talents or interests that make YOU who YOU are
- Build a name song
 - Fit your acronym into a song
 - Only participate in this activity IF YOU CHOOSE
 - Rotate until everyone who want to participate has done so

Social Studies Lesson:

- View Jeff Turning Heart video at <http://lc-triballegacy.org/video.php?vid=999&query=l>
- Read *Remembering Lakota Ways* by Emil Her Many Horses
 - Whole Class Circle Discussion:
 - Why might it be important to have a naming ceremony?
 - Why do people give gifts and have give-aways?
 - View Images at: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/emil-her-many-horses/remembering-lakota-ways_b_2145131.html
- Take out supplies to make Acronym Posters as gifts for parents or grandparents

Possible Follow-Up Activity / Discussion:

- Find your Lakota or Dakota birth-order name (next page)
 - Why might children have been named these traditional “birth-order” names instead of receiving a unique name right from birth?
 - What’s special about NOT receiving a name until later, at a special time?

Oglala Lakota Birth Order Names

Dakota Birth Order Names

Birth Order	Girl	Boy
First Born	<i>Wi-tokape</i>	<i>Caske</i>
	<i>Winuna</i>	<i>Caske</i>
Second Born	<i>Hapan</i>	<i>Hepan</i>
	<i>Hapan</i>	<i>Hepan</i>
Third Born	<i>Hepistanna</i>	<i>Hepi</i>
	<i>Hapstin</i>	<i>Hepi</i>
Fourth Born	<i>Wanska</i>	<i>Catan</i>
	<i>Wanske</i>	<i>Catan</i>
Fifth Born	<i>Wi-hake</i>	<i>Hake</i>
	<i>Wihake</i>	<i>Hake</i>
Sixth Born	<i>Hakata</i>	<i>Hakata</i>
	?	?
Seventh Born	<i>Cekpa</i>	<i>Cekpa</i>
	?	?
