

LESSON PLAN #1

Topic: What is Storytelling?
By: K.H. Myran
Subject: Language Arts
Grade Level: Kindergarten - Grade 8
Time Allotment: 45 minutes

Objectives:

Students will:

- use prior knowledge and experience after listening to a legend by completing a K.W.L. Plus Activity;
- learn the significance of the use of a "talking stick", "feather", and "rock";
- learn the significance of a sharing circle;
- learn the significance of "clockwise" or "sunwise".

Materials:

- K.W.L. Plus Activity Sheet folder (for teacher, teacher constructed)
- Pencil, eraser
- Talking stick, feather, rock
- Copy of a story or legend (for teacher)

Procedure:

The teacher:

- will write on the board the format of the K.W.L. Plus Activity (see hand-out). This may be done prior to class for younger grades;
- asks students to sit in a circle. The teacher explains the significance of the "sharing circle". The sharing circle represents the world and the circle of life. Also, the teacher can explain the significance of everything moving in a "clockwise" or "sunrise" direction. Even in our own life, "we are always moving forward";
- then passes around a willow "talking stick". (An eagle feather or a rock can also be used). The teacher explains the significance of the "talking stick" and this is used when one is talking to a group of individuals. "Respect" is given to the speaker and others listen attentively;
- asks the students, "What is storytelling?" The teacher writes all responses given under "K" (what we know). The teacher writes in short form and reviews ideas after all responses are given;

- then asks, "Do we know of any storytellers in our community?" The teacher makes a separate list for names given, on another side of the board;
- then asks, "What would we like to know?", and records all responses under the second column. The teacher reviews all responses;
- while holding the "talking stick", then tells the students a short story about herself or himself, (the story can be about something that she/he is quite familiar with).
Reluctant participants--respect them;
- then passes the "talking stick" clockwise (to the left). The students are given the opportunity to speak or share something with the group. The teacher can use this time to reinforce the significance of moving "clockwise" or "sunwise". "Life moves forward as does everything in life".

Conclusion:

- The teacher then tells the students "storytelling gives us information and there are tips used for storytelling.

Assessment/Evaluation:

- The students are to hand in KWL Plus activity. They should complete the first two columns and the teacher keeps these in a folder until the unit is almost completed.