



The Folklorists

Curriculum Supplement

Special Episode: Ellerbe Road School

Lower Grades



BASIC INFO

LOCATION: SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA, USA

- HAVE YOU BEEN TO LOUISIANA OR THE AMERICAN SOUTH?
- LEGEND: ELLERBE ROAD SCHOOL
 - ELLERBE ROAD SCHOOL (OR GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER SCHOOL) WAS A HIGH

SCHOOL THAT WAS SEGREGATED IN THE 1950S AND 1960S AND WAS DESEGREGATED AFTER BROWN VS. BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE CLOSURE IN 1973 MADE SPIRITS OF EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS RESTLESS (AND INCLINED TO PLAY TRICKS ON KIDS LOOKING FOR A SCARE!)

ART PROMPT

- CREATE A DRAWING OF WHAT YOU THINK THE GHOSTS AT ELLERBE ROAD SCHOOL LOOK LIKE.

DRAMA GAME: SPOOKY 3-PART STORIES

- CHOOSE THREE STUDENTS TO REPRESENT "BEGINNING," "MIDDLE," AND "END."
- USE THESE SENTENCE STARTERS AND HAVE THE VOLUNTEERS MAKE UP THE ENDINGS:
 - ONCE UPON A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT...
 - UNTIL ONE NIGHT, EVERYTHING CHANGED...
 - AND EVERY NIGHT AFTER THAT...
- YOU MAY ALSO ASK FOR THE "MORAL" OF THE STORY, OR WHAT WE LEARNED FROM IT.

GROUP ACTIVITY

TRY PLAYING THE ZOMBIE NAME GAME!

IN A CIRCLE HAVE ONE PERSON START IN THE MIDDLE AS THE "ZOMBIE." ZOMBIE SLOWLY WALKS TOWARD SOMEONE IN THE CIRCLE. IF THEY REACH THAT PERSON THEY ARE THE NEXT ZOMBIE. TO AVOID THIS, THE PERSON MUST CALL OUT SOMEONE IN THE CIRCLE'S NAME. THE ZOMBIE WILL THEN WALK TOWARD THE NAMED PERSON. AND SO ON!

REFLECTION

- HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A GHOST? IF SO, DID YOU KNOW WHO IT WAS?
- IS THERE SOMEONE'S GHOST YOU'D LIKE TO SPEND A DAY WITH?




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WRITING PROMPT

- DESCRIBE A TIME YOU FELT CULTURE SUPPORT YOUR LEARNING. FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE YOU EVER FELT MORE UNDERSTOOD BY A TEACHER WHO SHARED YOUR RACE, COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, GENDER, OR OTHER IDENTITY?

DRAMA GAME: CROSS THE ROOM IF...

- NOTE: THIS ACTIVITY WILL BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN A LARGE OPEN SPACE LIKE A MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM OUTDOORS ON THE PLAYGROUND
- HAVE ALL LEARNERS STAND ON ONE SIDE OF A DEFINED SPACE THAT CAN BE CROSSED CLEARLY AND REPEATEDLY. FOR EXAMPLE, FROM ONE FREE THROW LINE TO THE OTHER, OR FROM ONE CORNER OR WALL OF A ROOM TO ANOTHER.
- THIS ACTIVITY IS INTENDED FOR LEARNERS TO SEE EACH OTHER IN NEW WAYS AND LEARN ABOUT EACH OTHER. LEADER CALLS OUT PROMPTS LIKE "CROSS THE [SPACE] IF YOU HAVE A CAT" AND STUDENTS WITH CATS WILL CROSS TO THE OTHER SIDE.
- ENCOURAGE CONNECTIONS TO THE STORY. FOR EXAMPLE: "CROSS THE [SPACE] IF YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS." OR "CROSS THE [SPACE] IF YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST."
- YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO INVITE CONNECTIONS BASED ON CULTURE. FOR EXAMPLE: "CROSS THE [SPACE] IF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY SPEAK SPANISH AT HOME." "CROSS THE [SPACE] IF YOU CELEBRATE KWANZAA/LUNAR NEW YEAR/HANUKKAH/ETC."

ART PROMPT

CREATE A POEM OR COLLAGE DEDICATED TO A FAMILY STORY OR LEGEND. THIS CAN BE ABOUT GHOSTS OR NOT. THIS CAN BE ABOUT SCHOOL OR NOT. IT MIGHT EVEN BE ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE SNACKS THAT YOU CAN ONLY GET IN A SPECIFIC PLACE.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- WHAT WOULD IT FEEL LIKE TO ATTEND A SEGREGATED SCHOOL? WHAT ARE PROS AND CONS? IF THERE ARE PROS ARE THERE WAYS TO MAKE THOSE CHANGES IN THE LONGTERM?
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