

“History No Mystery” Lesson

Suggested Age/Grade: 3rd – 6th

Length of Time: 90 minutes

Skill: Research skills, use of encyclopedia

Resources/Materials Needed:

- ✓ “Come Be With Me” CD
- ✓ CD player
- ✓ Classroom set of encyclopedias
- ✓ Copies of attached “Key Points” handout for each group
- ✓ Copies of attached “History No Mystery” Crossword (or Word Find) puzzle for each student

Procedures 4th – 6th
Grades:

Before the Activity:

1. This activity is designed to be done **after** the children have a chance to listen to the “History No Mystery” song, to talk about it why it is so important to know our history, and to dance to it.
2. Make copies of the “History No Mystery” crossword puzzle for each student and enough copies of the “Key Points” for each group.

For the Activity:

3. Divide the children into 6 groups of 2-3 students each.
 4. Have children listen to the “History No Mystery” song and identify the people discussed in the song.
 5. Review with students the process for using an encyclopedia.
 6. Assign to each group one person from the following list:
 - Mary McCloud Bethune
 - Mahatma Gandhi
 - Mister Fred Rogers
 - Maynard Jackson
 - Nelson Mandela
 - Harriet Tubman
- Note: Gandhi is also spelled Ghandi in some books.
7. Distribute the appropriate volume of the encyclopedia to each group.
 8. Give each group 20 minutes to research their assigned person. Have one person in the group be responsible for filling out the “Key Points” handout as they do their research.
 9. After research is complete, have a different person from each group be responsible for reporting back to the whole class the key points for their person. After each person, the teacher should summarize the key points that she/he wants the students to learn (even if they are not mentioned by the group report). Specifically, be sure to mention the key points that they