

African American Musicians

by Marcy Hutchison

Standards

IL.1.B.3b > Identify text structure and create a visual representation (e.g., graphic organizer, outline, drawing) to use while reading.

IL.3.A STANDARD: Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and structure.

IL.4.B STANDARD: Speak effectively using language appropriate to the situation and audience.

IL.4.B.3a > Deliver planned oral presentations, using language and vocabulary appropriate to the purpose, message and audience; provide details and supporting information that clarify main ideas; and use visual aids and contemporary technology as support.

IL.5.B STANDARD: Analyze and evaluate information acquired from various sources.

Resources

www.loc.gov

Overview and Rationale

This lesson plan is for a sixth grade class.

In appreciation of Black History month (February), students will be creating a biography poster on an African American musician. Music is often a major part of a student's life. Many students listen to music everyday without thinking about the history of it. This project will give students the opportunity to research African American musicians. In doing so, students will learn more about the history of music and the life of a musician. This is important because students must know that there is a history to the music they hear. Students will also learn about African American musicians through research.

Objectives

Students will create a grammatically correct biography poster board that includes, photos, a timeline, and interesting facts about the life and musical career of an African American musician.
Students will orally present learned information to their classmates.
Students will use the LOC website to find research on their musicians.

Materials

the book- A Man and His Band
poster boards
markers
computers
cd players (for oral presentation)
pencils
an array of books on African American musicians
glue

Procedure

The project would typically take two weeks to complete. However, during three of those days, students will be doing research on their musician. The following lesson plan would be used during one of these three days:

Students will go to the computer lab
Students will go to the website:

<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/aa/music>

As a class, students will read aloud from the story "A Man and His Band", a Duke Ellington Story
After reading this story, students will be asked to search their chosen artists from this website
Students will read and record information and facts about their artists to put on their poster boards

Assessment

Students will create a biography poster that includes photos, a timeline, and interesting facts about the life and musical career of an African American musician.

Students will orally present learned information to their classmates.

Students will use the LOC website to find research on their musicians.

To check that students did visit the LOC website, they will be asked to print a page from the website with information regarding their musician.

A checklist will be used to determine if their poster board meets satisfactory requirements, such as, the inclusion of photos, interesting facts, and a timeline.