

Lesson: Freedom from the Madness

1. Desired Results

Standards, benchmarks, other objectives as needed (e.g., IEP)—What should students know, understand, and be able to do as a result of the lesson?

Students will be able to make the following generalization: People have the ability to overcome violence and division and establish peace and unity.

Students will know what tools Gandhi used to teach active non violence

Students will be able to make a connection between bullying and group dynamics in their school and violence in India during partition.

Students will be able to draw on Gandhi's lessons in order to create change in their own lives.

2. Assessment Evidence

Performance task—What will students do to show what they have learned?

Performance criteria—How good is good enough to meet standards?

Students will answer the following questions:

- 1) What does the story of Souren's personal transformation say about what people are capable of?
- 2) What lessons can we take from this story and apply to our own situation in school?

Student's answer to question #1 should make the the generalization that people have the ability to overcome violence and division and establish peace and unity.

Student's answers to question #2 should connect concrete examples of what Gandhi taught to realistic actions that students could take in school.

3. Learning Plan

Learning activities (step by step from start to finish, detailed enough for another teacher to follow)

1) Teacher will ask students to complete worksheet #1 with the following questions:

In your school do people separate themselves into different groups? If so, what are the groups?

Is there ever bullying between members of different groups?

How does this impact the way that being in school feels?

How would you like school to feel?

What do you think would have to happen to made this kind of change?

When all of the students have completed the worksheet the teacher will ask students to help her write down all the answers on the board.

2) Teacher will tell the students:

Mahatma Gandhi was dealing with a similar problem except that he was working with a country, India, instead of a school and the different groups, the Hindu's and the Muslims, where not only bullying each other but killing each other in many cases as well.

3) Teacher will tell the students:

The story I am about to read is about a man who went from being a victim and perpetrator of violence to a living example of unity and peace.

4) Teacher will read Freedom From Madness out loud

5) In small groups go back to the text and list the answers to the following question on poster board:

What tools did Gandhi use to teach his people how to create peace out of violence?

6) Students will share findings and put up posters at the front of the room.

7) Teacher will hand out worksheet #2 with the following questions:

What does the story of Gandhi's mission and Souren's personal transformation say about what people are capable of?

What lessons can we take from this story and apply to our own situation in school?

8) Students will share their answers with the group.

4. Reflection

What happened during my lesson? What did my students learn? How do I know?

What did I learn? How will I improve my lesson next time?

Adapted from Tomlinson and McTighe, *Integrating Differentiated Instruction + Understanding by Design*, ASCD, 2006.

- 5) What do you think would have to happen to made this kind of change?

Name _____
Class _____
Date _____

Freedom from the Madness: Worksheet #2

- 1) What does the story of Gandhi's mission and Souren's personal transformation say about what people are capable of?

- 2) What lessons can we take from this story and apply to our own situation in school?