

My Name is Yoon and The Name Jar - Korea - Lesson Plan

Amanda Lucero
Talented and Gifted Language Arts
Noble Academy Columbus

Purpose:

This unit will immediately follow my unit on Wabi Sabi, which talks about a cat who doesn't know what her name means. These two books, My Name is Yoon and The Name Jar, both feature young Korean girls who want to change their names once they move to America. We will use this unit to discuss the themes of individuality and acceptance.

Target Group:

I will be teaching this unit to a group of six gifted third grade students. They get pulled out daily for one 45-minute period of enrichment Language Arts.

Estimated Duration: 4 45-minute class periods

Essential Questions:

Have you ever felt left out?

Do you like your name? What does it mean?

Where is Korea? What is the Korean culture like?

Could Unhei still have been Unhei if she had picked a different name? Why or why not?

What can we say about names and their importance? Is a name just another word or is it something more? Why?

Activities

Day 1:

Take the students to the computer lab for some research. We will do this jigsaw style. Assign each student a topic from one of the following web pages,

<http://www.timeforkids.com/destination/south-korea>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/find/south-korea/>

TSW report back his/her findings to the rest of the class.

Day 2:

Ask each student if he/she has ever been made fun of for his/her name, Has their name ever been mispronounced? See if any students know how to write their name in another language (Arabic, Hindi). Discuss the way the name looks different. Does it look pretty?

Today we are going to read a story about a girl named Yoon who does not like her name when she comes to America and has to write it in English.

Read My Name is Yoon aloud to the class.

Day 3

General recall and comprehension questions.

Have students make a T chart and compare Yoon's feelings regarding her name at the beginning of the book to her feelings at the end of the book.

Now we are going to read another book about names.

Read aloud The Name Jar.

Day 4

Recap The Name Jar.

TSW make a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the two stories.

For an extension, have each student conduct research finding what his/her name means and its language of origin, why their parents picked this name, etc.

Resources

<http://www.timeforkids.com/destination/south-korea>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/places/find/south-korea/>

My Name is Yoon by Helen Recorvits

The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi