Purpose: To expose children to different cultures and to contrast and compare those cultures to their own. To celebrate differences in culture as well as to better understand the dynamics of the similarities that make us one people. I believe that knowledge is power. Books offer us a way to bridge the gap from ignorance to tolerance and acceptance. I also believe that young children are the most honest and accepting members of our society. They can teach us all so much when it comes to looking beyond and looking within. I really believe that racism and prejudice are learned behaviors. If we begin to teach small children about various cultures and an appreciation of their uniqueness, perhaps we will begin to build a better world. I pledge to apply the ideas and ideals learned from the Asian classes in order to do my part to help build a more tolerant world population, one child at a time.

Target Group:
The group that I will be working with is Kindergarten. It will be a first week of school introductory lesson. I think these books will be a good lesson on comparing how they felt coming to school this week and how the main characters felt coming to American schools. We will talk about compassion and tolerance and differences/similarities in people as well as in schools. As a consulting teacher in Wooster City Schools, my job is to create and share units across the district and with my team of CT’s. This unit will be offered to 10 Kindergarten teachers and 4 consulting teachers within Wooster City District.

Essential Questions:
Where is Korea?
Why do people come to America?
How did you feel coming to Kindergarten the first day?
Who helped you feel better?
How did they help you?
How are we all alike?
What are some ways we are different?
What do Korean children eat at school?
What is their school like?
What would it be like to travel to and live in another country?
Do you know the meaning of your name?
Were you named after someone in your family?

**Background:**
*My Name is Yoon by Helen Recorvits* is a story of a young Korean child who moves to America. Upon enrolling in school, she does not like the looks of her name written in English. She thinks it looks happy in Korean, but sad in English. She decides to change her name. She tries many names including “Cupcake”. In the end, she decides she will keep Yoon.

*The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi* is about a Korean American girl who just arrived in America and is afraid that no one will be able to pronounce her name, Unhei. She creates a jar full of names to choose from.

**Lesson:**
I will begin by introducing myself and explaining how I got my name and what my name means. Then, I will tell them the stories I will read to them are about children who are from another country who have unusual names for America. I will show them where Korea is on the World map and we will discuss why people move to America. We will discuss how it felt to come to school this week for the first time. I will ask them to imagine coming to America or going to another country for the first time. Many things would be different! I will set the purpose by asking them to think how the children in the stories are like them and how they are different as I am reading. I will then read *My Name is Yoon* and *The Name Jar*. We will then list ways we are like the main characters and ways we are different. I will introduce them to facts about schools in Korea and we will contrast and compare our school to Korean schools. What would a child in Korea’s lunch contain? How long is their school day? School year? I will show the children the website which puts western names into
Korean language. I will give them a bookmark that I have made with their name in English on one side and in Korean on the other. While they practice writing their name in Korean, I would look up their individual names in a baby name book and tell them the meaning (calling attention to the fact that Yoon means shining wisdom).

**Materials:**
- *My Name Is Yoon* by Helen Recorvits
- *The Name Jar* by Yangsook Choi
- *The Best Baby Name Book*
- [http://thinkzone.wlonk.com/Language/KoreanName.htm](http://thinkzone.wlonk.com/Language/KoreanName.htm)
- [http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/cultural/oldworld/asia/html](http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/cultural/oldworld/asia/html)
- [http://english.tour2Korea.com](http://english.tour2Korea.com)
- Wikipedia.com Korean schools
- World map

**Standards:**

**PA**
Read your first and last name

**AV**
Learn new words from context or picture clues
Ask and answer questions about orally read text
Participate in shared oral reading

**RA**
Identify and discuss simple maps
Identify the main idea in an orally read story

**WA**
Dictate text for various purposes

**Communication**
Listen attentively to stories
Connect what is heard with prior knowledge
Follow simple oral directions