



Lesson Plan: Intermediate Grades 3 - 6

VISIONQUILT

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Objectives:

Students focus on the concept that violence has a long-lasting impact: Gone Too Soon

Core Standards: Reading, comprehension and application of informational text. Cause and Effect/English Language Arts; Visual and Performing Arts; Social Sciences; Health and Safety. This activity also supports and demonstrates involvement in Local/State initiatives such as the *Safe Schools for Safe Learning Act of 2013* in California.

Setting the Stage:

Engagement Essential Questions:

What is violence? What is gun violence? What are the causes and effects of violence? How can we practice being nonviolent towards ourselves and others? How can we keep ourselves safe? How can we keep our communities safe? Do all lives matter?

Preparation:

List Essential Questions for all students to view. Have students do a 4-5 minute *free write* on essential questions. Pair-share or small group share free writes. Whole class discussion and sharing of free writes on essential questions. Ask students to share personal stories around violence and the personal effect(s) of violence.

Option: Gone Too Soon: Have students do research on historical figure whose life was cut short by gun violence including what the world might look like had that person/group lived. Present to whole class. Or, list names with the whole class of people and groups (i.e.; Sandy Hook Children/Orlando) whose lives were cut short by gun violence. Brainstorm the possible contributions those, “gone too soon”, might have made to the world.

Engaging with the Project:

Introduce *Vision Quilt activity* as a way to bring awareness of a better world, a world where lives are not cut short by gun violence and all people are allowed to live out their life and make their contributions to family/society.

Option: Brainstorm slogans as affirmations (i.e.; Be Peace, Disarm Hate, We Belong to Each Other), show examples of Vision Quilt panels.

Delving Deeper: (whole class)

Have each student make a Vision Quilt panel on paper or fabric using materials that are available. Have each student write 2-3 sentences about their panel. Ask each student to present their work to the class. Hang Vision Quilt panels in classroom or school to create dialogue.

Reflection:

Return to essential questions and create a finished product as a group such as a pledge or manifesto regarding non-participation in gun violence. It could include the empowerment to continue the discussion outside of the classroom. What does preventing gun violence look like at home? In our school? In our community?