

Hildegard Center for the Arts “Heroes Among Us”

Heroes in History ABC Book

Adapted with permission from
Education World lesson plan “Heroes in History ABC Book,” located at
<http://www.educationworld.com/alesson/00-2/lp2286.shtml>

For Grades 3-5; 6-8/ 9-12 in the areas of Art & Humanities and Technology

Purpose: To help students recognize the characteristics of heroes and apply this knowledge (through research) to learn about Heroes of the past.

Objectives:

- The students will identify the characteristics of a hero
- The students will complete research about people in history that may be recognized as heroes
- Students will write short biographies about their assigned heroes
- Students will use technology to create a project

National Standards that may be met:

- Students use different media, techniques and processes to communicate ideas, experiences and stories.
- Students select and use subject matter, symbols and ideas to communicate meaning.
- Students understand there are various purposes for creating works of visual art.
- Students read a wide range of print and non-print texts to acquire new information.
- Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate and appreciate texts.
- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriate to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.
- Students apply knowledge of language structure, language conventions, media techniques, figurative language and genre to create, critique and discuss print and non-print texts.
- Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions and by posing problems.
- Students use a variety of technological and informational resources to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes.

- Students use a variety of media and formats to communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences.
- Students use technology tools to enhance learning, increase productivity and promote creativity.

Materials needed:

- Teacher-selected resources and student-researched library or online sources
- Computer(s) with word-processing program and internet access
- Different colored construction paper
- Drawing paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Chalkboard and chalk or chart paper
- Hole punch
- Brass fasteners or loose-leaf rings

Lesson One:

- Ask students to name the characteristics of a hero.
- Ask students to name famous people in history who may be recognized as heroes. Write student responses on a chalk board or chart.
- Ask students which names on the list they would include if they were going to write a book about heroes.
- Check off student responses.
- Ask students to tell the first letter of the last name of each person mentioned.
- Write the letters of the alphabet on the board. Check off the letters associated with names suggested by students.
- Tell students that they are going to create their own ABC Book of Heroes. The book will include some names on their suggested list plus others that are added by the teacher to complete the alphabet. For younger students, you may want to omit the letters Q, X and Z.
- Let students choose a letter of the alphabet or assign each student a letter. Students will research a hero in history whose last name begins with that letter.
- Have students write a short biography about the person and draw a picture of the person or print out a photo from the internet. The students will also give an oral report about the individual they have researched.
- Let students use teacher-selected or student-researched library sources or online sources to complete their research. Give students a few days to complete their research, write their biographies and prepare the illustrations.

Lesson 2

- Let students paste their biographies and pictures onto different colored construction paper. Let one or two students arrange the pages in ABC order. Ask students to create a title for the book.
- Punch two or three holes on one side of each page. Assemble the pages using brass fasteners or loose-leaf rings.
- Make the ABC Book of Heroes available in the classroom or school media center/library for review.

Suggestion: To extend the life of the book, laminate or put clear contact paper on the cover and put the book in a learning center.

NOTE: Older students may want to make their book via the computer or create a power point or other computer-generated Alphabet book.