

African American Voices Lesson Plans

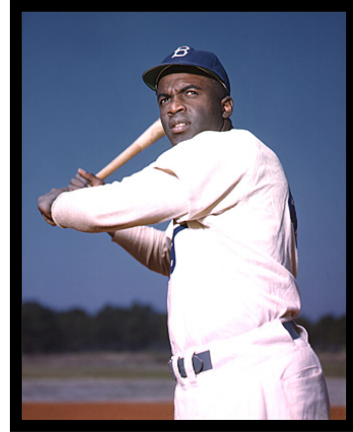
Lesson Title: Jackie Robinson

Subject: Art/ Social Studies

Grade: Kindergarten

NGSSS: **VA.1.A.3.1** Identify connections between visual art and other content areas.

SS.K.A.2.3 Listen to and retell stories about people in the past who have shown character ideals and principles including honesty, courage and responsibility.



Description/ Abstract of Lesson: Students will recognize the contributions of African-Americans in sports and will appreciate their roles in influencing social change.

Objective(s): Students will be able to understand how Jackie Robinson changed the history of baseball.

Materials:



- Young Jackie Robinson book (paperback First-start Biographies) by Farrell
- Child sized t-shirt
- White butcher block paper cut in the form of child-sized t-shirts. One cut for each student
- Sponge number “42” to place across the t-shirt
- Picture of Jackie Robinson
- Glue

Before The Lesson: Prior to the lesson, trace t-shirt on white butcher paper. Cut out one t-shirt shape for each student.

Lesson Lead In/ Opening: Begin lesson by introducing Jackie Robinson. Ask students what sports they like to play. Display pictures of athletes playing different sports. Ask students if they like baseball. Ask them to explain how baseball is played. Discuss.

Activity:

1. Tell students that the class is going to read a story about a man who played baseball a long time ago. Tell them that Jackie Robinson loved to play baseball. He even won awards for playing baseball so well. Jackie Robinson had many friends and fans, however there were some people who did not like Jackie because he was Black. Read to the students the story [Young Jackie Robinson: Baseball](#)

- Hero. Discuss how difficult it must have been for Jackie Robinson to play baseball during that time.
2. Re-read the story if you feel it is necessary and review the story with the students by asking them questions. Example:
 - What other sports did Jackie Robinson like to play?
 - What did Jackie Robinson do when he was called mean names?
 - Why did he continue to play?
 - Why was it important for him to play?
 3. Explain to the students that because of the great thing Jackie Robinson did, his number (42) is honored by all Major League Baseball teams. No players are allowed to wear it on any team. It is considered to be Jackie's number.
 4. Tell students that the class is going to make a Jackie Robinson Baseball t-shirt. Give each student a paper t-shirt. Place the sponge numbers, the t-shirt cut-out, the Jackie Robinson picture and the glue on the students' desks. Have them stick the sponge number "42" on the t-shirt first. Then, have students paste the picture of Jackie Robinson right underneath the sponge numbers. (The picture can be acquired from the Internet). Have students design and color the front and back of the t-shirt cut-out.
 5. Display the t-shirt cut-outs in the classroom or around the school.

Assessment:

- Student participation
- Art grade for the t-shirt
- Teacher observation

Extended Lesson: Have the students draw a picture about something difficult that they learned how to do (i.e. tying shoes, ride a bicycle, etc.)

Web resources:

<http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/black-history.htm> (idea for the lesson came from this site)

<http://www.jackierobinson.com>

Sources and Recommended Books:

Farrell (1996) Young Jackie Robinson, *Baseball Hero*, Troll Communications