



**Know
My World™**

Picture People Lesson Plan



Title of Lesson: Picture People

Ages:3-100 (various)

Subject:Global Studies/Social Studies/Art/Language Arts

Description:

Participants will create a “postcard” of themselves via photography or mixed media. They will then create and list 5-10 critical thinking questions, which examine and describe the portrait, on the reverse side of the card. Participants will be asked to trade the cards with a partner and answer the questions listed on the card. The entire group will then conduct a compare and contrast dialogue.

Objectives:

Participants will be able to clearly identify physical and environmental characteristics. Participants will be able to construct critical thinking and comparative questions about self and others such as “What colors are in the photograph” (for younger participants) or “What elements make up the background” (for older participants). Participants will demonstrate comprehensive language when discussing various cultures, races, ethnicity, and gender such as “She is wearing a Bindi or Tikka”.

Materials:

5x7 manila paper, cardboard, or oak tag

Camera and printer

AND/OR

Mixed media (Magazines, markers, crayons, pencils)

Scissors

Glue or adhesive

Rulers (optional)

1. Discuss with participants the ways in which we live culturally.
“What country are you from? Your family?”
“What are your family’s traditions, customs?”
“What is different about your home from others?”
2. Ask participants to consider how their culture has affected them in matters of appearance and environment.
“How can you depict this in a photograph/portrait of yourself?”
“How can you pose your body? What can you wear?”
“Where could you take this picture?”
“What will you be doing?”
3. Ask participants to create a rough draft composition on paper of their ideas for the photograph/portrait.
4. Cut card material and photo/portrait to 5x7. Paste together.
5. Ask participants to consider the questions they asked themselves while creating this picture.
“What are the ways you choose to describe yourself visually?”
“What questions examine the characteristics of this picture?”
“If you were someone else looking at this picture, what would you want to know?”
6. Ask participants to list 5-10 of these questions on the back of the card.
7. Trade cards with as many partners as you like. Answer the questions on the back of the cards through discussion.
8. Regroup and conduct a group discussion to compare and contrast.

Processing questions:

1. "What and why did you choose to do in your picture?"
2. "What did you not do, that was still present in your picture and how did it describe your culture, race, background, etc.?"
3. "What did you enjoy most about another person's card?"

Modifications:

*Expand the impact of the lesson by not only conducting within the immediate group but also mail, scan/email, or blog to participants all over the globe.

*Use mixed media and photographs together for a more artistic and creative flair. *Create fewer questions or more descriptive ones for special needs and very young participants. (i.e. "What color is this person's skin? What kind of objects are in the picture? Are they big, small?")

*Create specific questions for special subjects or more advanced participants. (i.e. "What is the nature of the textiles in this photo? What are the environmental implications? What feelings does this picture evoke for you, why?")