Culture Performance Task Project

Objectives

Students will be able to define culture.

Students will recognize that some differences among people stem from culture and where people came from

How are our cultures the same?

How are our cultures different?

Read Aloud – Jingle Dress Dancer

Discuss – What are the cultural differences between you and the little girl in this book? How did she learn to become a jingle dress dancer? Where do you suppose her grandma learned about jingle dress dancing? Do you think all Indian girls jingle dress dance? What do you have in common with the main character? Are there traditions in your family that you celebrate? What is a powwow? Has anyone been to a powwow?

Write the following statement on the board.

1. No one is exactly like me, but I have things in common with others.

(Give an example- I have brown hair, --- has brown hair. We have that in common. Then talk about differences between people. ----- is a girl, ----is a boy, that is a difference. On a T chart have students come up with things that are different and the same between two pictures that you hang up.

1. Explain that some differences are related to culture and some are not— Culture- Ways of living and beliefs that are handed down from one generation to the next. Working from the list on the board, explain that all people share basic needs (food, shelter, etc.), that each of us learns a set of behaviors and beliefs from the people we grow up with (the kinds of houses we build and foods we eat), and that each individual has unique talents and preferences (I'm good at math; I don't like chocolate). When we talk about the behaviors and beliefs that a group of people have in common, we are talking about culture.
2. Ask students to complete the worksheet in order to help them identify aspects of their own cultures. Explain that each student should answer each question with one sentence or phrase. Then students should rank each item as to how important they feel it is to their culture.
3. After students have completed the worksheets, ask them to share their answers in small groups.
4. Create book, collage or poster representing your culture. It can include language, tradition, celebration, national flags, traditional foods and any other ideas that will help us understand your culture. You can also bring in things from home or dress special.
5. Present your work to the class and explain what you put on your work and why.