

Lesson Plan: Vocabulary through Project

Grade Level: Pre-K, K, 1, 2

Objectives: Early Learning Objectives Option 1.

Children will be able to:

Learn who Amanda Williams is and why she is Redefining Redlining, a joint tulip-planting project.

Define new vocabulary related to Amanda Williams's Redefining Redlining, a joint tulip-planting project discussion after reading

Illinois Early Learning Standards

Language Arts:

1.B.ECa Use language for a variety of purposes,

2A.1a. Recognize that others may experience situations differently from themselves,

3A.1a. Explain why unprovoked acts that hurt others are wrong.

Objective:

To introduce preschool children to new vocabulary related to Amanda Williams' art project in Washington Park, and to teach them about the negative effects of "redlining."

Materials:

- Pictures of Amanda Williams and her art project in Washington Park
- Pictures of tulips and empty lots in Washington Park
- Flashcards with new vocabulary words and picture examples (e.g. redlining, discrimination, community)

INTRODUCTION 5 MINUTES

1. Show the children pictures of Amanda Williams and her art project in Washington Park, images from the RedefiningRedlining.com website can be used.

2. Ask the children if they remember what art is, and if they have seen any art in their community.

3. Explain that Amanda Williams is an artist who is working on a project in Washington Park, and that she wants to make the neighborhood more beautiful.

LESSON 20 MINUTES

1. Introduce Amanda Williams, as an artist.

You can say:

that Amanda Williams is an artist who uses paint and paintings to explore how the planning and design of a community impact different groups of people. Especially people with brown skin (African Americans). She uses colors and buildings in her work to spread her message to be fair. Amanda, her family, and a group of her friends helped some people in the Washington Park community plant many pretty flowers called tulips. They did this because they wanted to show how redlining hurt their community and families that lived there.

2. Let's discuss some of the words she uses to explain her work.

- Introduce new vocabulary words using pictures and words.

- Define each word and provide examples to help the children understand their meanings.

Redlining: Redlining is when some people are treated unfairly or differently because of the color of their skin, where they live or how much money they have.

You can say:

Redlining is not fair or kind and we should always treat everyone with respect and kindness, no matter who they are or where they come from.

Respect: Respect is a feeling of appreciation and thoughtfulness towards someone or something.

You can say:

You can be respectful by treating others the way you would like to be treated, being polite and using good manners, listening to others when they speak, and taking care of things that belong to you and others.

Discrimination: Discrimination is treating someone unfairly or differently because of their skin color, gender, or other characteristics.

You can say:

It's important that everyone should be treated with kindness and respect, no matter their differences.

Community: A community is a group of people who live in the same area and share things like places to play, schools, stores, and parks. They help each other and work together to make their neighborhood an excellent place to live.

You can say:

All communities deserve the same beautiful spaces. They should always be able to visit their favorite parks, playgrounds, and other outdoor areas, as it is good for our health, happiness, and well-being. It is fair that everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from public spaces regardless of their background or location.

Show the children pictures of tulips and empty lots in Washington Park, and explain that Amanda Williams is planting tulips on those empty lots to make the neighborhood more beautiful and to imagine the beautiful buildings that were there before some people created a rule (redlining) to tear them down. You can say: This community has experienced redlining, racism and discrimination. Remember, redlining is when people are treated unfairly or differently because of racism (the color of your skin), where they live or how much money they have.

Discuss the importance of having a nice community where everyone can live.

CONCLUSION 5 MINUTES

1. Review the new vocabulary words with the children.
2. Ask the children why it is important to treat others fairly and with kindness.
3. Explain that unprovoked acts that hurt others are wrong and that we should always try to be kind and respectful to everyone.