

LESSON PLAN: Tsucwinucw-k

Activity: Greeting Circle

Grade Level: K-3

Overview

This lesson gives students in Grades K-3 an opportunity to practice using an Indigenous welcome phrase to acknowledge their classmates. We'll sit in a circle, pass an object to each person in the circle as they share with their classmates a feeling, animal, weather or (other descriptor) of how they are in the moment. After the person shares, everyone together says 'Juh Wee Nuh' as taught by Phyllis in the video. The person passes on the item to the next person and so on...

Learning Objective

This lesson invites students in Grades K-1 to practice listening to others and acknowledging them by using an Indigenous word Tsucwinucw-k (Juh Wee Nuh) that means "I see you, I acknowledge you, and I'm happy you are here."

Materials

- Phyllis Video - Tsucwinucw-k
- Object to pass around circle
- Card with word 'Tsucwinucw-k - Juh Wee Nuh' to show students as reminder
- Optional: other greetings from different cultures e.g. Namaste that indicate a similar concept of 'I see you and am glad you are here'

Duration

Approximately 30 minutes.

Lesson Steps

1. Pre-Video Teacher Discussion Prompt (8 min)

"Okay everyone, let's think about when you came to school today! Did you say 'hello' to anyone? Did your friends say 'hello' to you? How did that make you feel? Did it make you feel happy? How would you feel if no one said 'hello'?"

Now, I want to introduce you to Phyllis! Phyllis is very kind, and she wants everyone to feel welcome. She knows a special word from her language that she uses to say 'hello' and make people feel happy. She is going to teach us that special word!"

2. Play Video - Tsucwinucw-k (2 minutes)

3. Post-Video Classroom Activity Teacher Prompt (20 minutes)

"Okay everyone, let's gather in a circle on the carpet! We're going to play a fun game using the special word Phyllis taught us, 'Juh Wee Nuh'! Remember what it means? That's right, 'I see you, I acknowledge you, and I'm glad you are here.' I have this special object [show the object], and I'm going to pass it to one of you. When you get the object, you can tell us how you're feeling right now, like if you're happy, excited, or maybe a little sleepy! You can also tell us your favourite animal or what the weather is like outside. After you share, everyone will say 'Juh Wee Nuh' together. Then, you'll pass the object to someone else and it will be their turn! Let's start!"

Extensions (Optional)

- Have students ask their parents, family or caregivers about greetings from other cultures and their meaning to share after students are confident in learning Tsucwinucw-k. Consider sending a slip home with the children for them to collect the information and bring back to school.