Laura McShane

We Shall Overcome 45 min

Objective:
Help students understand the concept of civil rights

Big Idea:
Music can change the world

1. Warm Up / Anticipatory 20 min

Share - We Shall Overcome The Story of A Song by Debbie levy with illustrations by Vanessa Brantley-Newt
For older students:

Review: https://www.wonderopolis.org/wonder/what-is-a-civil-right
Resources:

https://stuartstotts.com/we-shall-overcome/

Also recommended:

This Promise of Change - also by Debby Levy and Jo Ann Allen Boyce
Child of the Dream by Sharon Robinson
Clap Your Hands by Toyomi Igus - illustrated by Michele Woods
The Roots of Rap by Carole Boston Weatherford - illustrated by Frank Morrison
2. Investigation and New Learning 15 min

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame features songs that have inspired activism https://edu.rockhall.com/ Teachers have free access to music and lesson plans.

Play: Glory by John Legend with Common.

Compare with the lyrics of We Shall Overcome Musical and lyrical adaption by Zilphia Horton, Frank Hamilton, Guy Carawan and Pete Seeger - inspired by African American traditional call and response.

Do you take a stand on current issues?

READ Are Kid Crusaders Fair Game for Critics?

By LEANNE ITALIE Associated Press

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3. Review & Check for Understanding 30 min
What music affects your mood? Does it inspire change?

Review:
https://www.wonderopolis.org/wonder/what-does-it-mean-to-stand-for-something

- CAUSE
- DEMONSTRATION
- RACIAL
- SEGREGATION
- BOYCOTT
- SYMBOL
- MOVEMENT
- WHOLEHEARTED
- APPLAUDING
- OVATION
- CHARITABLE
- ICON
- PUBLIC
- PASSIVE
- PROMOTE
- SUPPORT
- RESEARCH
- IMPORTANCE