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
We Shall Overcome

The Story of a Song

Written by Debbie Levy
Illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

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. 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

JANUARY 12, 2020 — 10:35AM

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