

LESSON/ACTIVITY FRAMEWORK FOR VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Spotlight Focus:

6-12_Social Awareness: What is Juneteenth?

Time:

30 mins.

FACILITATION

Preparation

Before the Lesson

Review the websites/activities used in this lesson.
Open each website needed behind the Zoom screen.

Video:

- Black-Ish "Juneteenth" - <https://video.link/w/R7L0c>
- Animation Series: What is Juneteenth? - <https://video.link/w/xEL0c>

Vocabulary:

Start the Zoom session 10 minutes before your scheduled start time to support students with tech issues.

Lock the session 5 minutes after the scheduled start time.

Step 1: Environmental Agreements

Set Expectations

 **1 minutes**

Use this time to welcome your students and establish how you expect them to engage / participate.

Review the HS Pillars:

- We are FAMILY – safe, inclusive, supportive, and trusting
- We are EMPOWERED – confident, enabled, intentional, kind
- We are LEADERS – inspiring, respectful, innovative, open

Be sure to emphasize:

- The activity will call for self-reflection and sharing out of thoughts, it is therefore imperative that students are actively engaging in the "We are Family" pillar.
- Keep the microphone muted until speaking.
- Be free from distractions. (Quiet place, etc.)

Step 2: The Hook

Activate Prior Knowledge

 **3 minutes**

You can share your screen and play a related video, sing song, read passage, use discussion questions, etc. for students to get them engaged before beginning the lesson/activity.

ASK: "Has anyone heard of the state holiday 'Juneteenth'? Allow 2-3 students to answer.

"For those that haven't, I'm going to share a quick video from the show Black-Ish that gives a very brief insight into what the holiday is."

PLAY VIDEO: Black-Ish "Juneteenth" - <https://video.link/w/R7L0c>

Step 3: Objective

Establish the Purpose

 **1 minute**

Use this time to Read the Objective of the lesson/activity to your students. What do you want your students to learn at the close of this activity? Use the whiteboard on zoom.

Objective: *"Today, we will learn about Juneteenth and why it is important to many people."*

Step 4: The Activity

 **20 minutes**

Refer to Activity Lessons/Resources. This is where the learning occurs. Select an activity from the curriculum resources library to facilitate. Have fun with your students virtually!

Set up the activity:

EXPLAIN: *"After watching that short clip, we're going to watch an animated video that goes more in depth about Juneteenth. Please make sure to pay attention because after we will have some discussions questions that will allow us to share our thoughts"*

Play Video: Animation Series: What is Juneteenth? - <https://video.link/w/xEL0c> (4:50 min)

Check In: *"Now that we watched the video, we are going to answer a few questions together. I want to remind you that this is a topic that many may find sensitive, so we need to respect and acknowledge the feelings of those around us."*

Discuss:

1. *Why is there two Independence Day?*
2. *There were over 250,000 enslaved Americans that received the news that slaves were free 2 ½ years after it actually happened. How does that make you feel?*
3. *Because of that, former slaves created their own Independence Day. Why would creating a new Independence Day be important to former slaves?*
4. *Juneteenth has been celebrated in Texas since 1866 but was recognized as a holiday in 1997 by congress. Why do you think it took over 100 years to do so? Why do you think Texas is the only state that has it as a recognized holiday?*
5. *What does the Juneteenth flag represent?*
6. *Many people don't know about Juneteenth, why do you think that is?*
7. *Why do you think it's important to acknowledge and celebrate Juneteenth?*

EXPLAIN: *"Now that we learned about Juneteenth, I'm going to give you a list of ways you can celebrate Juneteenth if you choose to"*

1. **Celebrate:** While it may be new to us, Juneteenth has been celebrated by others for years.
2. **Reflect:** True reflection take dedicated quality time. Take some time to reflect on the important of Juneteenth.
3. **Unlearn:** We've all grown up in a society that is systematically racist. How do you break your implicit bias patterns? You can do this by reading books on systematic racism or watching videos on it.
4. **Learn:** It's important to educate yourself and to diversify your sources of information and inspiration. Read about different perspectives, backgrounds, cultures. Follow publications that

regularly feature Black stories and amplify Black voices.

Step 5: Connect the Learning

 **5 minutes**

Check for Understanding

Use this time to review new ideas, vocabulary, main concepts from the activities. You can utilize the chat so students can enter answers. Allow students to share their experience of the activity. Highlight some responses.

ASK: *"What is Juneteenth?"* Allow 1-2 students to share.


"Why is Juneteenth an important holiday for many people?" Allow 1-2 students to share.

Revisit the Purpose:

Review the Objective of the lesson/activity to your students. What did you want your students to learn at the close of this activity? Did we get to that point? Utilize the whiteboard on zoom.

Objective: *"Today, we will learn about Juneteenth and why it is important to many people."*

Offer Extension Activities

- Teach family and friends about Juneteenth.
- Find a way to celebrate Juneteenth this year, whether it be by learning more about it or acknowledging its importance.
-  **Additional Questions:** What did we do today? Where have you seen this in your life? What skills did you use today? How does this help us when we go to college and career? What did you see? What do you think?