Genius Hour Lesson Plan

**Teacher:**

Kate McGowan

**Grade:**

Kindergarten

**Subject(s):**

Cross-Curricular:

* Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies
* Social Studies
* Arts Education

**Topic:**

Exploring our Identity through our Families: Sharing and Connecting with Other

**Social Media Platform:**

Flipgrid

**Guiding Question:**

How can we strengthen collaboration and connectedness in our classrooms?

**Curricular Connections**

**Big Idea(s):**

*Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies*

* Skills can be developed through play.
* Technologies are tools that extend human capabilities.

*Social Studies*

* Stories and traditions about ourselves and our families reflect who we are and where we are from.

*Arts Education*

* People create art to express who they are as individuals and community

**Curricular Competencies:**

*Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies*

* Use materials, tools, and technologies in a safe manner in both physical and digital environments
* Develop their skills and add new ones through play and Collaboration

*Social Studies*

* Explain the significance of personal or local events, objects, people, or places

*Arts Education*

* Express feelings, ideas, stories, observations, and experiences through the arts
* Experience, document, and share creative works in a variety of ways

**Learning Content / Standards:**

*Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies*

* N/A

*Social Studies*

* Ways in which individuals and families differ and are the same
* Personal and family history and traditions

*Arts Education*

* Processes, materials, movements, technologies, tools, and techniques to support arts activities
* Personal and collective responsibility associated with creating, experiencing, or sharing in a safe learning environment

**Lesson Description**

**Objective**

The purpose of this lesson is to allow students the opportunity to explore their identity with their families. Students will share an object, tradition, event, or person that is significant to themselves and their families by creating a video, an art piece, a skit, a performance, a photograph, or a story, etc. They will then post their sharing to the class Flipgrid discussion forum. By having students post their work on Flipgrid, the teacher can respond to and communicate with students about their posts, families can participate and become part of their students’ learning experiences, and students can think creatively about what makes them different and/or similar to their classmates.

The overarching goal is for students to connect and share with each other things of significance that help shape who they are. By sharing these things, students will be able to build a connection in which they can recognize and appreciate what makes their friend unique and similar to themselves. Students will also be able to build a sense of community and connection as they share their own and observe others’ cultures.

**Lesson Description (In Class – Pt.1)**

**Introduction – Read Aloud**

Students will:

* Listen respectfully to the reader
* Use hand signals to communicate whether they have a question, a comment, or a connection (create these with your class)

Teacher will:

* Introduce the book for the read aloud
* Possible Read Aloud Books:
  + Memory Jars by Vera Brosgol
  + I Am a Story by Dan Yaccarino
  + Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao by Kat Zhang
  + Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock by Dallas Hunt
  + Grandmother School by Rina Singh
  + The Remember Balloons by Jessie Oliveros
  + Maud and Grand-Maud by Sara O’Leary
  + Fishing with Grandma by Susan Avingaq
  + Festival of Colors by Kabir Seghal
  + The Gift of Ramadan by Rabiah York Lumbard
  + A Family is a Family is a Family by Sara O’Leary
  + Dancing Hands by Margarita Engle
  + Grandma’s Gloves by Cecil Castelluci

**Developing Pt.1 – Class Discussion**

Students will:

* Listen and participate respectfully during the discussion
* Think, Pair, Share

Teacher will:

* After reading, explain that everyone has something special that helps make them who they are. It can be a place, an object, a story, a song, a dance, a tradition, or a special person.
* Ask the question: What did you notice in the story that could be really important to our main character? Have the students think, pair, and share.
* Follow with: What are some things that you can think of that might be really important to you? Give an example: ex. My dance shoes are really important to me because they remind me how much I love being on stage. Have the students think, pair, and share.

**Developing Pt.2 – Individual Activity (Worksheet)**

[**Click for Worksheet Template**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aoUYKv5aD9xkVVRDJtZBjNKIiDXBh7Sr/view?usp=sharing)

Students will:

* Complete individual activity
* Write down one thing that is important to them and why (teacher may scribe where necessary)
* Draw detailed picture and color with at least 5 different colors.
* Work quietly and respectfully to help ourselves and others succeed.

Teacher will:

* Explain the activity to the class. They must draw a picture of and write down one thing that is important to them. They must also tell us why it is important by writing it down or by telling us verbally.

**Closing – Share / Introduce Home Activity**

Students will:

* Share work with their classmates
* Listen to the speaker respectfully

Teacher will:

* Use popsicle sticks to randomly pick 1-3 students to share what they wrote and drew.
* Have students put their work into a hand in bin
* Explain that just like we have things that are important to just us, there can be things that are important to your whole family. With your families at home, I want you to talk about something that is important within your family and with their help your job is to create something to tell us about it. It can be a skit, a picture, a song, a dance, and interview, or a story. Then, make a video response to show and tell us about your creation. You can post them to the class Flip Grid so we can share our important things with each other.
* I will send a note home with you to help explain your activity to your families.

**Lesson Description (At Home)**

**Newsletter Home** (Can be sent as an email)**:**

[**Example**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PVDgcqCa0MGfjEKOrJZRbATbg-PftkTX/view?usp=sharing)

**Flip Grid Class Code:**

5152b726

**Flip Grid Topic Link:**

[**https://flipgrid.com/8540cdf5**](https://flipgrid.com/8540cdf5)

**Flip Grid Post: Activity Description and Instructions**

*What’s Important to Your Family?*

Share with us something that is important to you and your family! It can be a person, a place, a dance, a song, or a story! Make a video response and tell us about your "something important". In your video, you can just show us, draw a picture, play a song, perform a dance, take a picture, or tell us a story to tell us about it. Be creative! When you have finished your creative project, post it to our class Flip Grid to share it with us.

**Flip Grid Post:**

[**Example**](https://flipgrid.com/s/9ARwypuxpdzF)

**Lesson Description (In Class – Pt.2)**

Depending on the number of students and much like show and tell, a number of students’ Flipgrid posts will be presented to the class at a time. At this time, students will have the chance to expand upon their creations and fellow classmates will be able to ask questions and make connections with the creator.

**List of Links to Created Resources**

The following Links can also be found within the Lesson Plan

**Flip Grid Topic:** [**https://flipgrid.com/8540cdf5**](https://flipgrid.com/8540cdf5)

**Newsletter Home Example:** [**https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PVDgcqCa0MGfjEKOrJZRbATbg-PftkTX/view?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PVDgcqCa0MGfjEKOrJZRbATbg-PftkTX/view?usp=sharing)

**Worksheet Template:** [**https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aoUYKv5aD9xkVVRDJtZBjNKIiDXBh7Sr/view?usp=sharing**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aoUYKv5aD9xkVVRDJtZBjNKIiDXBh7Sr/view?usp=sharing)

**Flip Grid Post Example:**

<https://flipgrid.com/s/9ARwypuxpdzF>

**References**

B.C. Ministry of Education. 2021. *Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies K*. Retrieved from <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/adst/K/core>

B.C. Ministry of Education. 2021. *Arts Education K*. Retrieved from <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/arts-education/k/core>

B.C. Ministry of Education. 2021. *Social Studies K*. Retrieved from <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/social-studies/k/core>