DuSable Museum

Topic
Word Scramble

Lesson Summary
In this lesson, participants will test their brains to gauge their prior exposures to key terms, people, and places related to African American History.

Objectives
● To learn and register key terms, people, and places related to African American History
● To help kids recognize their deficit of knowledge, with regard to African American History. Then to provide culturally specific information the kids can store and reference as they think about American history.

Description of Activity
Participants will attempt to unscramble words. They can use a dictionary, and/or an online search engine.

List of Materials/Equipment
The word scramble handout.
A pencil
Access to the internet (phone, laptop, tablet...)
One or more prizes

Background info
Africa — Africa is a continent made up of many countries - 54. African Americans retain many Africanisms (culturally specific events, rituals, and ways from African culture that exists in the African Diaspora (places where people of African descent were moved to). The attempts to reconnect African people with their ancestral heritage involves deconstructing popular narratives (hence the scrambling), then reconstructing the information with an intentional effort to include and understand the full context of the info.

Procedure
Introduction (5 minutes)
Today we are going to start with a word scramble. To unscramble and restore words, your brain has to have the correct word in its memory files. In the field of meta cognition we now know that everything you ever see gets stored in your brain somewhere. Our attempt to unscramble these words will help us to determine how much African American History info we have been exposed to.

Kids can use the internet
The brain stores everything, but it might not easily remember everything. In fact, it only recalls new data or data that has been repeated over and over and over. Since you may not see these terms and names often, you can use a dictionary or Google to help you. These words will be used in a variety of
formats over the activities provided so having the kids look up and share out the words will help with the other activities.

**Activity (35 minutes)**
Get to unscrambling!

**Time Up!**
Kids share their results. How many did they get right? Which person or group had the most correct answers? What do they think the terms mean? Do they know any of the people?

**Answers (5 minutes)**
The instructor shares the answers and awards the prize.

**Evaluation**
- As participants are completing their activities, ask them about their knowledge of those basic terms, people, and places. Are they a part of a culture that uses unique terms, or celebrates special people or places? Have them provide examples.
- This would be a good time to incorporate a general conversation about culture – what it is and maybe share some elements of culture (things that define a culture): family, religion, language, governance, clothing, education, economics, art, communication...

**Take Home Activities/Family Connections**
- Visit the museum to learn more about African American culture.
African Continental & Diasporan History

W.E.B. Dubois
KMT (Kemet)
Carter G. Woodson
Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Mary McLeod Bethune
Toussaint Louverture
Brazil
Asante Sana
Adam Clayton Powell, Jr
Muhammad Ali
Armstead Allen
Kwame Ture
David Walker
Percy L Julian
The Honorable Marcus Garvey
Brown v Board
Kathryn Magnolia Johnson
Huey P. Newton
Claudette Colvin
Kwame Nkrumah
Baba
Imhotep
Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr.
Haki Madhubuti
Wizkid
H. Rap Brown
Winnie Mandela
Paul Robeson
MAAT
Plessy v Ferguson
Ida B. Wells
Booker T. Washington
The 13th Amendment
Liberia
Ase
Asa Hilliard III
A. Phillip Randolph
Bartley McSwine
Miriam Makeba
Chairman Fred Hampton
Whitney Young
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