Youth Organized for Disaster Action – Y.O.D.A Best Practices – Curriculum Web

Diversity Training, Bully Prevention, and/or Conflict Resolution

English/Language Arts:

- Writing about tolerance/diversity issues.
- Reading literature from different cultural backgrounds – discovering differences and commonalities.
- Reading literature with themes related to conflict resolution – emphasis on non-violent methods
- Learning about cross-cultural communication
- Interviewing individuals involved in conflict (peer mediation)
- Writing up intervention reports – the analysis of the situation and the resolution

Math:

- Designing and implementing surveys to assess success of program
- Calculating the level of violence or conflict in a school or community – i.e. how many incidents occur in this school every year, is it on the rise, why might this be, where do these incident occur?

Science:

- Using the scientific method to evaluate the impact of the program – i.e. did this project work?

Health:

- Learning about the health impacts of disasters, violence, etc – post-traumatic stress, physical injuries
- Learning how to identify the signs of stress and how can we address it?
- Understanding the effects of stress in our own lives and communities – bullying, domestic violence, child abuse
- Understanding of the causes of stress in our schools and communities – how can we address those causes?

Social Studies:

- Researching the different histories of various ethnic groups in the U.S. and how those experience shape people's outlook, circumstances, etc today.
- Understanding public policies that affect different groups – i.e. immigration
- Researching the different organizations, government agencies, etc that do outreach to various groups – what do they do, how to they do it, are they successful?
- Researching various figures such as MLK and Gandhi who led non-violent movements for social change.
- Looking at all of U.S. History and/or World History through the lens of conflict and struggle – i.e. having a historical debate about violent and non-violent solutions to various struggles (i.e. what if the U.S. did or did not intervene in some certain circumstance).
- Writing letters to elected officials to inform them of the project

Art:

- Looking at how art can provide therapy and relaxation for people?
- Creating performances (plays, skits, etc.) to educate others about cultural differences and/or conflict resolution

Technology:

Family Involvement:

Workforce Development:

- Researching various careers related to counseling, conflict resolution, mediation, etc.

Foreign Language:

- Exploring how language itself is often a barrier and exacerbates tensions between groups

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