

Exemplar



A Unit of Study:

Historical Figures through Character Study

(Co-Planned with History)



Drama Concepts:

- Character study research exercise.
- World of the character.
- Visualisation and Physicalization, how they look, how they behave.
- Monologues. Writing and speaking a character's fictional monologue.

History Subject Matter:

- Freedom Fighters
- Key events in their life
- The world in which they lived.
- Expressing their responses to the world.
- Themes: Oppression, Resistance, Self-Determination, Choices.

Learner Skills:

- Research, Exploration and Investigation, Imagination, Writing, Performance and Presentation.

Performance Sharing:

- "The living museum" - a gallery walk through of historical characters that come to life when interacted with by the viewer. (Presented for other classes, or parents on open-day).

A Possible Sequence of Lesson Plan Objectives

I. Drama - Exploring the idea of character and behaviour in situations.

- A. Using image stimuli of groups in various states of action. Students use **freeze frames** and **thought tracking** to explore and understand a character.
- B. Learners **investigate** through discussion all the various factors that make up a character.
- C. **Character study worksheets** - are handed out and explained.

II. History - Researching specific characters and their worlds.

- A. Students bring homework in where they have **researched** everyday freedom fighters from a pre-decided list. Name, family, education, religion, caste, class, profession, food, interests, climate, wants and desires etc.
- B. Identify **key event** in that character's life.

III. Drama - Tools for performing character.

- A. Practice a drama vocabulary to explore ranges of a character's **walk, rhythm, energy, gestures and speech**.
- B. **Select and Justify** a props and costume item that is important to that character, his/her story, his world. **Hot-seat** the character.
- C. Identify and **create poses** that represent a key moment in the character's life.

IV. History - Writing on the event.

- A. **Writing** answers to a series of "what if" questions around the key event that they answer in the first person.
- B. **Developing** and **editing** together a five - ten sentence fictional monologue from the above.

V. Rehearsal and Performance:

- A. **Perform** the monologue to a series of actions/gestures frames.
- B. **Work together** with others to **assemble** the characters into a living gallery in front of an audience.

VI. Postscript - How would the character respond to India in 2017?

To get more ideas - write to us.