

2019 5th Grade WTTM Lesson- Student Activism Collage Making

Objectives:

1. Students will learn about major student activist movements and tactics used.
2. Students will make a collage of student activism that inspires them.
3. Students will be reassured that their voice holds power.

Basic Lesson Plan for Whitman Volunteer: Student Activism

- **3 minutes** Introduction: Why we're here. What is Whitman Teaches the Movement
- **3 minutes:** Introduction of Activism and Student Activism
- **2 minutes:** Turn off lights to Show Meghan Markle clip (5th graders are 11 years old too!)
- **8 minutes:** SNCC Movement, Read MLK speech, and talk briefly about March for our lives (talk about information in a non biased way!!)

David Hogg and Emma Gonzalez led the #neveragain movement after the Parkland FL shooting at Marjory Stoneman High School Feb 14 2018 resulting in a nation-wide March for our Lives walk in support of stricter gun control and a stronger response to gun safety in our schools and communities

- **24ish minutes:** Student Activist Collage Making (Give them the most time for this)
- **5 minutes:** Share out collage (Small groups)
 - Leaders should pick an example where They have been a student activist and what tactic they used

While the students are collaging ask them questions about activism and their work such as:

- Why did you choose this image/quote? What about it did you like?
- In what way does this inspire you?

Some Powerpoint Information

- Student Activist Slide: Walla Walla High School ASB President Emma Case led the local March last spring where hundreds of kids, parents, teachers community members came together to support the youth voice in demanding greater attention to gun violence in America
- Define Voice: (Use examples of skittles vs m&ms but also bullying)
- Highest new voter registration this year in Walla Walla. Midterm election was high for 18-24 turnout. At a Wa-hi soccer game
- SNCC Slide: 1965- Right to vote for African Americans. Stress that voter registration was much harder during the 1960s. SNCC is highlighted in the film SELMA which is about MLK and non-violent activism for voting rights for blacks and ALL people.
- March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom- Over 200,000 people gathered to advocate for equal jobs and civil rights for African Americans. Mention how the fight for civil rights issues is not over!
- MLK Speech: MLK started as an engaged student and aware citizen and continued his activism with age. It also connects with our 9th grade lesson.
- Many older activists say their education was vital to seeing issues in the world around them

Dealing with Value Based Questions:

- 1) **Validate the question:** *That's a really great question and I'm sure a lot of other people were thinking of asking the same thing so thank you for asking it.*
- 2) **Acknowledge that it is a knowledge based question:** *Depending on who you ask you will get different answers.*
- 3) **Give a spectrum of possible answers:** *The answers range anywhere from people who say guns should be given to teachers to guns shouldn't be allowed for anyone or more testing should be required.*
- 4) **Encourage them to talk to others:** *I encourage you to talk to your trusted adults and community members.*