|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Teacher: | Subject/Grade: Sixth/Seventh Grade (Middle School) |
| Objective/Standard: Introducing Biographies | Materials: Markers, whiteboard/chalkboard, pencil, paper |
| Length of Lesson: One Week | Goal: To introduce the biography genre and encourage students to try creating a biography. |

|  |
| --- |
| Engage: 1. - Show students pictures/videos of a notable or famous person you admire.  - Explain how you discovered/learnt about this person, go over a couple details about them, and talk about why you admire them.  2. - Could also show students pictures/videos of several notable or famous people.  - Explain who they are and go over a couple details about them. Ask students if they know who this person is. |
| Explore: - Then introduce a question with the entire class: Who is a notable or famous person they admire, and why?  - Have them share, one by one, or have them first share in partners/small groups then together as a class.  - Write down their answers on the board or on a big piece of paper. |
| Explain: - Discuss what a biography is, what its purpose is, and what elements are included in a biography:  - Date/Place of Birth  - Interesting facts/stories  - Family and friend relationships  - Key events that have shaped that person's life  - Ask students if they know any examples of biographies.  - Share examples of biographical works. Explain how they can be in different forms (essays, books, films, musicals,  songs, etc.):  - Play a snippet of the song "Chris Farley Song" by Adam Sandler that is about comedian Chris Farley.  - Show a clip from the Broadway musical *Hamilton* that was inspired by the book *Alexander Hamilton* by Ron  Chernow.  - Present pictures of biopic movies, like *Bohemian Rhapsody* and the side-by-side comparisons of the Live-Aid  performance.  - Introduce pictures of biography book covers and snippets. Explain who the people written about are, and share  book recommendations (ex. *Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina* about Misty Copeland). If possible, maybe check  out several biographical books from a library for students to read in free time. |
| Elaborate: - Have students practice with biographies by interviewing another classmate then writing a paragraph about them.  - Or, have students practice with biographies by writing a paragraph about their own lives. (Technically, this would be an autobiography.) |
| Evaluate: - Final project: Create a biography on a famous or notable person that you would like to know more about. The biography can be in any form--essay, film, song, art, etc. |

Created by Mina Jang