Lesson Plan

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African-American Inventors

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Introduction

Most people have heard of famous inventors and their inventions that make our daily lives easier. But many African-American inventors have been overlooked. In this lesson, students will be actively involved in class discussions that create awareness and understanding about African-American inventors whose technological inventions have changed our lives. Students will be put into small groups where they must choose three inventors to research and complete a project on.

Learning Objectives

- 3.People, Places and Environments. Research African-American inventors
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.7 Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
  - Pictures of African-American inventors
  - Computer

Procedure

Ask students, “Think about all of the inventions that you use in your daily lives. Now, choose your favorite and tell me why you chose that invention.” Give students a few minutes to think, then go around the classroom and ask students to reveal their choices.

Activity 1: African American Inventors

1. After discussing students’ favorite inventions and creating a heightened interest in the topic, tell students that they will be learning about African-American inventors. Discuss how African-American inventors have changed

2. Next, give students a few examples of inventors such as Alexander Miles who invented automatic elevator doors and Sarah Boone who invented the ironing board.

3. After discussing a few inventors, introduce the research project that students will be completing about African-American inventors. Then establish small groups of about three students.

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